

FORMING A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF ALL PUBLIC COMPANIES.

{ STAMPEDSIXPENCE.
{ UNSTAMPED...FIVEPENCE.

1945-1946

THE BRIGHTON HOTEL COMPANY (LIMITED).

Capital £50,000, in 5000 shares of £10 each.
 10s. per share to be paid by the application, to be returned in full in case no allotment of shares shall be made.

Under the New Act for Limiting the Liability of Shareholders, by which Act no subscriber will be liable beyond the amount of his shares. See 18 and 19 Vic., c. 133.

Lord THOMAS PELHAM CLINTON, Cleveland-square, Hyde-park.
 JOHN HUMPHREY, Esq., Alderman of the City of London, Clapham-common.
 WILLIAM PRINSEP, Esq., King's Arms-yard, City; and 8, Hyde-park-place West.

DIRECTORS.—(To be appointed from amongst the shareholders immediately after the allotment of shares.)
 AUDITORS.—(One to be appointed by the Board of Trade, the other by the shareholders.)
 SOLICITORS.—James T. Vining, Esq., 2, Moorgate-street.

BANKERS.—Messrs. Prescott, Grote, and Co., 62, Threadneedle-street.
 BROKERS.—Messrs. Field, Son, and Wood, Warfield-court, Throgmorton-street.
 ARCHITECTS.—Messrs. Allen, Snook, and Stock, Duke-street, Southwark.

OFFICES.—26, NEW BRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS.
 This company is formed for establishing a hotel at Brighton, to meet the wants of the visitors to that fashionable place, and to afford accommodation to the residents at a reasonable rate. A moderate tariff will be published, and the hotel placed on such a footing as to be within the reach of most classes of society. A manager of great experience has been provisionally engaged.

A beautiful building has been secured, which will be completed in time for the Brighton season. The site selected is the finest in Brighton, at the junction of the east and west cliffs, commanding a most splendid view of the sea, and the back feeling the Old Steyne. The house is so constructed that nearly every room overlooks the sea. It is not intended to adopt the Continental or even the American plan. The system of management and the arrangements will be essentially English, and suitable to our English habits and feelings.

The hotel will afford ample accommodation for persons desiring private apartments, and also for those who desire to save the expense of private sitting apartments. Distinct classes of rooms will be provided, one for ladies alone, and the other for ladies and gentlemen. There will also be separate coffee and morning rooms for gentlemen who are inmates of the house, and there will also be a family & suite daily. This arrangement, with moderate charges, will, there can be no doubt, induce hundreds who now go to lodgings to remain at this hotel during their whole stay at Brighton. That such an arrangement was required, is evident from public opinion, as expressed in the Times:—"To see how radically the whole system is wrong, one need only observe the actual course of things at a watering place or seaport, or any place of popular resort. A visitor arrives; at first he goes to 'the hotel,' partly, perhaps, in ignorance, though more usually because he must have a few hours to look about him. And what does he look for? For a lodging! But is not this a practical contradiction of the whole system? Why, if it is as practical as this, if hotels were properly conducted, they ought to be the chief resorts, and private lodgings the luxury of the wealthy or fastidious. It stands to plain reason, that a man with 50 rooms,—that is to say, with 50 sets of lodgings,—at his disposal, under one roof and in one establishment, should be able to underwrite another with only one set to let."—Times (Leading Article), Sept. 24, 1883.

It is evident that nowhere in the United Kingdom—not even in London—is an hotel, conducted on reasonable principles, more called for, and where the opening is so large, and the success more certain, than at Brighton. There is a large town, almost a city, supported to a great extent by a migratory population of seekers after health and recreation, and having the usual, and to an hotel, most important advantage of a continuous succession of "Seasons." The facilities of communication with London are such as to make Brighton as accessible as if it were a suburb of the great Metropolis.

In all other civilized countries,—in France, in the United States, in Germany,—the joint-stock system has long since been applied to hotels, with the most absolute success, as regards the profits of the proprietors and the public comfort. In those countries, men of the highest social station have associated themselves with hotel companies. This example has recently been followed in England: the Great Western Hotel at Paddington, and the Lord Warden Hotel at Dover, are joint-stock concerns, having for the directors and shareholders men of the first standing in the commercial world. As might be expected, the success of both these concerns has been most decided; the former is realising 30 per cent. per annum profit—a rate almost unprecedented in any other business undertaking.

The capital will be appropriated to the purchase of the property, in the finishing and in such additions as may be considered necessary to the building, and in furniture, stock, crockery, wine, linen, and other incidentals necessary to the establishment of a first-class hotel.

An unusual feature in the formation of this company is the arrangement for the appointment of the directors from among the shareholders immediately after the allotment of shares. In the meantime the moneys will be paid to the bankers, to the account of the trustees.

The company will be fully registered, with "Limited Liability," as soon as the sum of £5000 has been subscribed; and calls will not be made more frequently than every two months, and not exceeding £2 per share.

Prospectuses and forms of application for shares may be had from the secretary, at the offices, 26, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, from the solicitor, J. T. Vining, Esq., 2, Moorgate-street; from the brokers to the company, Messrs. Field, Son, and Wood, Warfield-court, Throgmorton-street; and from Messrs. FREEMAN, CORNFORD, BLACK, and FREEMAN, Brighton.

EXTRACTS FROM LEADING ARTICLES OF THE "TIMES."
 "First, as to the character of hotel accommodation in England: this is entirely mismanaged from beginning to end.... That which is wanted is an establishment in which a passing guest can obtain clean and wholesome food at a moderate cost—something less than 20 times more than he would have paid for it at his own home. Then, again, can there be any more inconvenient arrangement than that which seals the public entry-room to ladies when in company of father, husband, or my male relative? Any one who is unfortunate enough to have any experience of English travelling, must be well aware that the presence of a lady well high quadruple hotel charges; a private sitting-room is absolutely necessary, and the bill is calculated on the private room scale, with the usual accompaniments of 'wax lights,' and other abominations of the same description. It is simply ridiculous to point to such an establishment as the Bedford Hotel, at Brighton: to frequent or to use such a house, a man must either be a millionaire, or under the reckless influence of approaching bankruptcy."
 "We say, then, without fear of contradiction, that there is no kind of proportion between the original cost of the article supplied by hotel keepers and their charges to their customers. If other tradesmen followed in the same rate, we should be paying £5 or £6 for a hat, and 14s. or 15s. for a cab from Temple-bar to Regent's-circus. Is there a man of moderate means in the British Islands who would look upon it as otherwise than absolute ruin to be compelled to stay with his family for three months of the year in an English hotel?.... Many remedies have been pointed out by our correspondents: these, no doubt, have attracted universal attention. We will venture to say, on our own practical ground, that if it were possible to obtain in English towns as comfortable accommodation, and at as moderate a rate, as in the hotels of the United States, we should be content. What stops the way?"
 "The excuse hitherto has been that the means of individuals are not sufficient to set an undertaking of this kind afoot, but the recent alteration in the law of partnership will obviate every objection of this kind. There is no reason why a number of persons should not club their £1000 a piece, place the affair under competent management, and command success.... A little while back it was the fashion to say that any attempt at organising dining-rooms on a large scale must be attended with inevitable loss and failure, partly because the social habits of Englishmen were opposed to the system, partly because the clubs satisfied all wants of this kind. Well, large dining-rooms have been established, and it is difficult to find a place vacant in them at the usual dinner hour. The same result would, no doubt, attend the establishment of larger and comfortable hotels with moderate tariffs. We recommend the subject to public attention. There are Ballarats in London with richer nuggets than Australia has sent us, to which nobody gives a thought."—Times (Leading Article), Nov. 3, 1885.

TO THE PROMOTERS OF THE BRIGHTON HOTEL COMPANY (LIMITED), 26, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,—I request that you will allot me shares in the above-named company; and I hereby agree to accept the said shares, or any less number which you may allot to me, and to pay the deposit thereon, and execute the Deed of Settlement of the same company when requested; and I enclose the bankers' receipt for the 10s. per share required to be paid on application.

Dated this day of , 1886. Name in full..... Occupation.....

SLATE.—The BANGOR ROYAL SLATE COMPANY have now ON HAND a large assortment of ROOFING SLATES, BLUE and GREEN, of the usual sizes, which they are prepared to SUPPLY on the usual terms, for shipment from their depot at Bangor, or to transmit by railway; also, SLABS of all sizes.—Orders to be addressed to Mr. EDWARDS, manager, Royal Slate Quarries, Bangor.

SLATE SLABS AND ROOFING SLATES.—THE PROPRIETORS OF THE NEW MACHNO SLATE AND SLAB COMPANY (LIMITED) have, at great cost, made arrangements to convey their produce from their quarries near Ffestiniog to Conway, to obtain the great advantage of access to the railway, giving them the facility of executing orders without the slightest delay. They trust that making Conway their shipping port will not cause them to be confounded with those hitherto known as the CONWAY SLATES, as the MACHNO SLATES are ENTIRELY FREE from PYRITES, or any metallic substance liable to OXIDATION; and, from having been tested in Wales for at least half-a-century, are found to retain a degree of hardness, by exposure to the atmosphere, unknown in any other vein. The MACHNO SLATES are too well known to need comment, but the annexed valuable testimonial from Mr. Magnus, of also a strong chemical test to which they have been subjected, will better explain their quality.

Festiniog Slate Works, Upper Belgrave-place, London, April 7, 1885.—GENTLEMEN: I very readily offer my testimony to the excellence of your slate raised at the Machno Quarries. I prefer them to all others obtained in North Wales, with one exception, and that is: much of the same quality as the Machno. The slabs can be obtained of large sizes, and of every requisite thickness. They are homogeneous in texture, strong, of good colour, free from spots and other impurities, pleasant to the touch of the mason, easily planned and moulded, and will bear exposure to a much higher degree of heat than slabs from any of the Carnarvonshire quarries.

Signed, G. E. MAGNUS, To the Proprietors of the Machno Slate and Slab Quarries, Liverpool, Oct. 18, 1885.—DEAR SIR: The experiments which I have tried on the specimen of slate, in reference to its capability of resistance to acids, enable me to pronounce it in every way capable of retaining boiling vinegar, without injury either to its own substance, or to the contained vinegar. A piece of the slate, weighing 95 grs., was exposed for 26 hours to the action of cold strong nitric acid; it was then boiled in the same acid for 20 minutes, and when washed, dried, and weighed, was found not to have lost perceptibly in weight. This I consider the most conclusive experiment.

Signed, GEO. C. HUBON, Wm. Orme Carter, Esq., Machno Slate and Slab Company. All communications must be addressed to the resident director, Mr. T. H. WHEELER, Conway, North Wales.

NOTICE TO INVENTORS AND PATENTEES.—THE OFFICES FOR PROCURING PATENTS ARE REMOVED TO No. 32, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON, where all information (British and foreign) may be obtained gratis.—ATHEY and CO., patent agents and negotiators.

THE CAMEL COPPER MINING COMPANY, EAST CORNWALL.

On the GOVERNMENT PRINCIPLE, or LIMITED LIABILITY, as may be decided upon at the first general meeting, and as soon as all the shares have been allotted.
 Capital, £10,000, in 5000 shares, at £2 per share. To be paid as follows:—
 10s. on allotment; 5s. as required afterwards.

For particulars as to the Camel Mine, apply to the undersigned, who will furnish reports from Capt. Jas. Richards, of Devon Great Consols, and Capt. Thos. Richards, of Liskeard, late agent at the Camel Mine.

All moneys are to be paid to Messrs. Robins, Foster, and Co., bankers, Bodmin, Cornwall, and no expenditure will take place until all the shares have been allotted, and the first call paid.

If all the shares are not taken up within three months from this date, those having taken shares and paid the first call will have their money returned, minus the bankers' commission of 5s. per £100.

The sum of £500 will have to be deducted from the capital of the company, in order to repay cost already incurred by the present lessees.

At the first general meeting a committee of management will be chosen, and proper officers appointed, for conducting the affairs of the company, and for the economical and efficient working of the mines.

To whom application for shares must be made, in the following form:—
 Sir,—I request you will allot me shares of £2 each in the Camel Copper Mining Company, and I agree to accept the same, or any less number that may be allotted to me, and pay the amount thereof by instalments, as required by your advertisement.

Dated this day of , 1886. Name..... Address.....

To Mr. W. D. King, Camelford, Cornwall.

TREBURGETT CROWAN CONSOLIDATED COPPER MINING COMPANY (LIMITED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT). SITUATE IN THE PARISH OF CROWAN, THE BEST MINING DISTRICT IN CORNWALL.

Capital £50,000, in 5000 shares of £10 each.—Deposit £5 per share.
 The old shares of £1 each in the Treburgett Consols Mine will be received in exchange, and in payment of the deposit of £5 per share.

OFFICES.—No. 9, AUSTINFRIARS, LONDON.
 The Treburgett Crowan Consolidated Copper Mining Company has been formed to work three extensive and valuable mines, called Wheal Curtis, Wheal Strawberry, and Wheal Dumping, in the parish of Crowan, in the county of Cornwall, in addition to the Treburgett "Sett."

These mines are situated in one of the richest copper strata in the county, and are upwards of 1200 fms. in length, and 400 fms. in breadth on the course of the lodes: they adjoin and run parallel to the celebrated Wheal Abraham, Oatlands, and Crenver sets, from whence immense quantities of ore have been raised, and great profits realised.

The stratum is clay-slate, of the same character as that of Wheal Abraham, being on the same geological formation. Wheal Abraham was found rich in ore to full 200 fms. deep, and the opinion of the experienced mining captains, by whom the Crowan Mines have been inspected and reported upon, is that they will be found equally productive to a similar depth.

There are six well defined and known lodes in the sets. Wheal Curtis lode has been worked to a depth of 47 fms. below the adit level, and upwards of 10,000 worth of ore been raised. The Wheal Dumping lode, which is 60 fms. south of Wheal Curtis, is sunk 27 fms. below the adit, and a level therefrom has been driven to 150 fms. east of the shaft, through excellent tribute ground. This lode presents the certainty of proving a rich mine. Another lode intersects the Curtis and Dumping lodes, and is seen about 4 fms. from the surface, where it presents a very fine gossan. There is likewise another lode south of Wheal Curtis, called the Dym lode, which has a promising appearance, and produces a splendid gossan. The remaining two lodes have not been opened upon, though their position and character have been ascertained.

The capital of the company is £50,000, divided into 5000 shares of £10 each, whereupon a deposit of £5 per share is to be paid, and the remainder called for as required for the mining operations, by instalments not exceeding 2s. 6d. per share, and that at intervals of not less than three months.

The company will be under the management of a board of directors, each of whom must be the holder of not less than 2 shares during his term of office. Periodical statements of accounts and reports will be submitted to the shareholders, and meetings of the proprietary duly convened, according to the Deed of Settlement constituted under the provisions of the Limited Liability Act, by which the liability of the shareholders will be limited to the amount of their shares.

Abstract of prospectus and reports may be obtained at the offices of the company. WILLIAM EVANS, Sec.

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE TREBURGETT CROWAN CONSOLIDATED COPPER MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).
 GENTLEMEN,—I request you to allot me shares in your company, of £10 each, on which I enclose you a deposit of £1 per share, and hereby undertake to accept such shares, or any less number, and to pay the further sum of £4 per share on allotment, and the further calls as required, up to £10 per share, subject to the provisions of the Act of Parliament which limits liability to shareholders.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant.
 Name in full..... Residence..... Profession or business.....

Reference.....

SOCIÉTÉ PARISIENNE POUR LE FOURNEMENT EN ENGLISH COALS TO PARIS AND THE VALLEY OF THE SEINE, AND FOR THE MARITIME CONVEYANCE OF GOODS.

Société en Commandite: FIRM—Ernest de Caumont and Co., established in Paris. OFFICES.—No. 12, RUE DES SAINTS PERES.

Capital 20,000,000 frs. (or £500,000), in 40,000 shares of 500 frs. (or £250) each. Liability of shareholders is limited by the Commercial Code of France to the amount of subscription. The shares may be either registered shares or to bearer, at the option of the subscriber.

THE DUKE DE LA ROCHEFOUCAULD DE DOUDEAUVILLE—PRESIDENT.
 JOSEPH LAMB, Esq., and M. MORISOT—VICE-PRESIDENTS.

JOSEPH LAMB, Esq., Atwell Park, coalowner—VICE-PRESIDENT.
 J. G. BARRETT, Esq., Kington Hall, Northumberland.
 JNO. CARR, Esq., Roseworth, coalowner.
 JNO. H. FORSTER, Esq., Mayor of Durham, coalowner.
 WM. HUNTER, Esq., Newcastle, coalowner.
 CHAS. J. LAMB, Esq., Leg. d'Hon., of Eourhambout, ironmaster.
 L. P. PHILLIPS, Esq., Mayor of Newcastle, coalowner.
 L. WOOD, Esq., Hutton Hall, coalowner.

THE DUKE DE LA ROCHEFOUCAULD DE DOUDEAUVILLE, Com. Leg. d'Hon., PARIS—PRESIDENT.
 LE COMTE DE DURFORT DE CIVRAC DE LORGE, Propriétaire, Paris.
 M. DE ROSTANG, Com. Leg. d'Hon., Directeur of the Société Gén. des Eaux, Paris.
 M. EM. LABARTHE, Maire Adjoint of the 16th Arrondissement, Paris.
 M. J. MARNIER, Com. Leg. d'Hon., of Eourhambout, ironmaster.
 M. J. MORISOT, Off. Leg. d'Hon., ex Préfet of Rennes, Conseiller Référendaire of the Court of Accounts, Paris—VICE-PRESIDENT.

Viscount SCHRAMM, Chev. Leg. d'Hon., Membre du Conseil Général de Maine et Loire.
 WM. H. WILLIAMSON, Esq. Durham; J. S. CHALLONER, Esq., Newcastle.

M. L. CREUZE DE VILLY, Comptroller of Customs, Paris.
 M. AUDIFFER, Advocate and ex Judge of the Tribunal of Commerce, Paris.
 BANKERS IN PARIS.—Messrs. Ardois, Ricardo, and Co.
 BANKERS IN LONDON.—Sir Charles Price, Bart., Maynard, and Co.; Messrs. Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, and Co.

BANKERS IN NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Messrs. W. H. Lambton and Co.
 AGENT AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—E. P. Thompson, Esq. (firm of W. Branding & Co.)
 SOLE AGENTS FOR SALES IN FRANCE.—Messrs. Delahaye (Père et Fils), Paris.
 LONDON AGENT—W. E. Edlison, Esq., 2, Walbrook.

SHAREBROKERS.—Messrs. A. W. Ricardo, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street; Messrs. Scott, Corthorne, and Scott, 16, Throgmorton-street.
 OFFICES.—88, CANNON-STREET WEST.
 REGISTRAR.—George Clark, Esq.

The English Subscription for shares in this Company will remain open until the 12th of July.

The first instalment is £5 per share payable as follows:—On applying for shares, a deposit of £1 per share is to be lodged to the credit of the grant and the trustees, at one of the company's bankers, who will deliver the provisional receipts for the same; and the residue of the first instalment will be payable within three days after the allotment, or the deposit will be forfeited. Should the number of shares allotted be less than the number applied for, the surplus of the deposit will be credited to the payment of the balance of £4 per share, payable on the allotment.

CORT'S NATIONAL TESTIMONIAL FUND.

The immediate object of this subscription is to meet the expenses of publication, and otherwise making known to both Houses of Parliament and to the nation during the present Session, the overwhelming claims of HENRY CORT upon the justice and public gratitude of all nations, and particularly that of Great Britain. The atrocious acts by which the great and acknowledged inventor of puddling and rolling bar-iron was robbed of his patent rights by a false affidavit, and raised to great public defamers, having only recently been brought to light from the Parliamentary Journals in the British Museum, the evidence is given in the Appendix to the committee, and a copy of the whole case will be forwarded to subscribers.

COMMITTEE.
 The Rev. James Booth, LL.D., F.R.S., Chairman
 (Chairman of the Council of the Society of Arts).
 William B. Carpenter, M.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., &c.
 (Registrar of the University of London).
 Edward Solly, Esq., F.R.S.
 D. T. Evans, Esq., F.G.S.
 David Mushet, Esq., F.R.S.
 Edward Rees, Esq., F.S.A.

From the Royal Bounty Fund, by Lord Palmerston (long before the printed petitions were forwarded to Her Majesty, Prince Albert, and his lordship).
 George A. Crowder, Esq., 17, Carlton House-terrace.
 James Stephen Wickens, Esq., 35, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square.
 An Ironmaster, Monmouthshire.
 Anthony Hill, Esq., Ironmaster.
 Crawshaw Bailey, Esq., M.P., Ironmaster.
 Robert Stephenson, Esq., M.P., Ironmaster.
 Edward J. Hutchins, Esq., Chairman of the Rhymney Iron Company.
 Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P.
 Hyde Clarke, Esq.
 Sir William Cubitt, Bart.
 Edward Rees, Esq., F.S.A.
 T. M. Paine, Esq., Farnham.
 Thomas Brettell, Esq.
 Thomas J. Way, Esq., Warwick-street.
 Charles Sanderson, Esq., Sheffield, manufacturer.
 Henry E. Hoole, Esq., Sheffield, manufacturer.
 William James Chaplin, Esq., M.P.
 Thomas Bennett Lawes, Esq., F.R.S.
 Charles Manby, Esq., F.R.S.
 James Simpson, Esq., C.E.
 Charles Wye Williams, Esq., Liverpool.
 Eliezer Ghaister Wilson, Esq.
 David Mushet, Esq., Mining Journal.
 R. Middleton, Esq.
 Messrs. Mauley and Field.
 Thomas Meadows Rendel, Esq., F.R.S.

Additional contributions will be received, and gratefully acknowledged, from persons desirous of lending their names and aid for the vindication of the national honour in this unparalleled case, at the banking-house of Sir J. W. Lubbock and Co., Mansion House-street; at the office of the Mining Journal, 26, Fleet-street; or the petitioner, Mr. Richard Cort, 29, Belitla-terrace, Barnsbury-park, Islington.

Mr. Roebuck, the Member for Sheffield, has kindly undertaken to present two petitions to the House of Commons:—one signed in support of Cort's national claim, and another on the only surviving act of the late Henry Cort, declaratory of the example national benefits from his inventions. The following Members will strongly support Mr. Roebuck in his efforts to do justice to these national claims, most of them having signed the General Petition:—

Robert Stephenson, Esq., F.R.S.
 Sir Joseph Bailey, Bart.
 General Sir De Laey Evans.
 Crawshaw Bailey, Esq.
 Edw. J. Hutchins, Esq.
 John Lloyd Davies, Esq.
 John Heathcoat, Esq.
 George Hadfield, Esq.
 George Bowyer, Esq.
 William J. Chaplin, Esq.

THE MINERS' ELECTRO-CHEMICAL REDUCTION COMPANY.
 FOR THE REDUCTION AND SEPARATION OF METALS FROM THEIR ORES.
 BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.
 OFFICES.—4, UNION COURT, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON.
 Applications from Mine Proprietors, Smelters, and others, for LICENSES TO USE the PATENT PROCESS of this company, may be made to, and terms and particulars obtained from, JOHN HAMILTON CLEMENT, Manager.

THE GARDETTE MINING COMPANY.
 DEPARTMENT OF ISERE, FRANCE.
 This undertaking is divided into 10,000 shares, of £5 each; a deposit of £1 per share is to be paid at the time of subscribing.
 Applications for the remaining shares may be made to Messrs. KIRKMAN and Co., Coleman-street-buildings, Moorgate-street, London, up to SATURDAY, the 6th of July inst., on which day the SHARE LIST WILL BE CLOSED.

MEMOIRS OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF GREAT BRITAIN, AND OF THE MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY.
 Now ready, in royal 8vo., price One Shilling.
 PART I. The Iron Ores of the North and North-Midland Counties of England.
 By Dr. PARRY, F.R.S., and W. W. SMYTH, M.A., of the Museum of Practical Geology, London.
 London: Published by Messrs. Longman and Co., for H.M. Stationery Office.

Just published, post 8vo., price 3s. 6d.
 THE MINES OF WICKLOW.
 Containing a full Description of the Mining Districts, together with Geological Maps, Plates, &c.
 London: Published by C. H. Law, 181, Fleet-street; and may also be had at the Mining Journal office, 26, Fleet-street, London.

LIBRARY OF ILLUSTRATED STANDARD SCIENTIFIC WORKS.—The following volumes are now published:—
 1. PROF. MULLER'S PRINCIPLES OF PHYSICS AND METEOROLOGY; with 430 Woodcuts, and Two Coloured Engravings. 8vo., 18s.
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 Vol. III. contains Food generally, Bread, Cheese, Tea, Coffee, Tobacco, Milk, Sugar, with numerous Illustrations and Coloured Plates. £1 1s.

4. QUEKETT'S (JOHN) PRACTICAL TREATISE ON THE USE OF THE MICROSCOPE. Third Edition, with Eleven Steel and numerous Wood Engravings. 8vo., £1 1s.
 5. PROF. FAU'S ANATOMY OF THE EXTERNAL FORMS OF MAN (FOR ARTISTS). Edited by R. KNOX, M.D. 8vo., and an Atlas of 28 Plates; Plain, £1 4s.; Coloured, £2 2s.
 6. PROF. GRAHAM'S ELEMENTS OF CHEMISTRY, with Application in the Arts. Second Edition, with numerous Woodcuts. Vol. 1, 41s. (Part 5 in the press.)
 7. PROF. NICHOL'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE HEAVENS. Ninth Edition, with 25 Steel Plates and many Woodcuts. London, 1831. 16s.
 8. MITCHELL'S (J.) MANUAL OF PRACTICAL ASSAYING for the Use of Metallurgists, Captains of Mines, and Assayers in General. Second Edition, much enlarged, with Illustrations, &c. £1 1s.

GAMGEE'S (J.) EXTERNAL ANATOMY OF THE HORSE.
 BERKELEY'S (Rev. J.) CRYPTOGAMIC BOTANY.
 London: H. Balfour, Publisher, 219, Regent-street, London; and 260, Broad New York.

FOURTH EDITION.
 Just published, in crown 8vo., boards, pp. 40, price 3s. 6d., by post 4s.
 BRITISH MINES CONSIDERED AS A MEANS OF NATIONAL INVESTMENT.
 By J. H. MURCHISON, Esq., F.R.S., F.G.S., &c.

FOURTH EDITION, with an APPENDIX, giving a REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS OF BRITISH MINES, and the dividends paid, during the year 1855, with their present POSITION and PROSPECTS, &c. This edition contains full particulars of the principal Dividend and Progressive Mines in England and Wales. Copies may be obtained at Mr. Murchison's offices, 117, Bishopsgate-street Within, or at the Mining Journal office, 26, Fleet-street, London.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.
 Mr. Murchison's new work on British Mines is attracting a great deal of attention, and is considered a very useful publication, and calculated to considerably improve the position of home mine investments.—Mining Journal.
 This is a valuable guide to investors in mines.—Herald.
 A very unpretending but useful little volume, and contains much information which cannot fail to be interesting.—Morning Herald.
 A valuable little book.—Globe.
 The book will be found extremely valuable.—Observer.
 A book extremely useful to the mine adventurer.—Plymouth Journal.
 Most admirably comprehensive, both of progressive and dividend mines, full of information.—Waterford Mail.

We believe a more useful publication, or one more to be depended on, cannot be found. Information of the nature given in these pages is invaluable.—Plymouth Journal.
 This is a very valuable book.—Cornwall Gazette.
 To those who wish to invest capital in British mines, this work is of the first importance.—Weighman.

This is really a practical work for the capitalist.—Stockport Advertiser.
 Persons desirous to invest their capital in mining speculations, will find this a very useful guide.—Warwick Advertiser.

THE MECHANICS' MAGAZINE (published every Saturday, price 3d., stamped 4d., and in monthly parts) contains, in addition to a most interesting matter on scientific subjects, the SUBSTANCE OF EVERY PATENT INVENTION, together with all other current information respecting patents, &c. &c. Messrs. ROBERTSON, BROOKMAN, and CO., (Editors of the Mechanics' Magazine, published in 1823) UNDERTAKE THE PROSECUTION OF PATENTS for the United Kingdom and all Foreign Countries, and the transmission generally of all communications to patents and the registration of designs.

Printed instructions and advice gratis on application.
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Original Correspondence.

RATING OF MINE DUES.

Sir,—I regret to see the agitation of this measure, which ought never to have been made the subject of legislation. I fear it will raise an unjust prejudice against the owners of land in Cornwall, and I mentioned this apprehension some time since to a friend of mine, himself a large landowner, and an eminent and most sagacious merchant, deeply interested, too, in Cornish mines. We agreed that dues should be rated, but that the onus should fall on the recipient (the lord), but the question should be made one for arrangement between the lord and the adventurer.

I have had 30 years' experience, and am much mixed up in mining negotiations, and I never knew a reasonable appeal to the lord for abatement or relinquishment of dues refused. Indeed, the lords of Cornish mines are eminently liberal in their dealings with the miner, and in this they are not only just to the latter, but they, in truth, best consult their own interests, and adopt sound principles and policy. In mining, as in farming, the interests of the lord and tenant are identical, and it will be a very unhappy event if a feeling of antagonism be generated by this measure. I fear there is a tendency towards it. I altogether disapprove of an appeal to Parliament, as being unnecessary and inexpedient, and I much fear that if this bill be passed other matters will be submitted to legislative control, and great mischief occasioned to the landed and mining interests. Let the lords reserve their dues in kind or in money, stipulating for payment of rates to be deducted from the amount.

I have lately framed a clause, rendering it compulsory on the grantee to pay rates, with power, in case of default, for the lord to do so, and recover the amount by distress, adding, "It being the true intent and meaning of the parties to these presents that rates and taxes, whether parochial or otherwise (except the income or property tax), shall be actually *bona fide* paid by the said grantees in respect of the said dues and rent, and shall not be evaded, or left unpaid, on any pretence whatsoever."

I have granted sets with this clause to parties who are foremost in their opposition to the bill, but they are aware that the "dish" was abated, in order to meet the provisions of this clause, and they acquiesced, because, in fact, they are not affected. If the question be settled by statute, there will no longer be a field open for negotiation, and the weight will inevitably attach to the miner. My great objection, however, to legislation arises from a belief that it will not terminate with the present bill.

For many years after the case of Rex v. Tremayne, landowners continued to pay rates, though not legally liable; and miners must not forget that the scale of dues has of late years been very much reduced, and is lower in Cornwall than in any other part of England or Wales.

I trust this bill will be abandoned, and the county restored to its property. The lord and the adventurer are far more interested in obtaining an open market for their produce, and the removal of the smelting monopoly. If the two conflicting parties would display some portion of their energy in compelling purchasers of our minerals to abstain from combination, and regulate their prices by the demand, some permanent good would be done to the county. The present agitation exhausts the powers of many excellent men, which might be devoted to the great object of placing the sale of Cornish ores on the same basis as other industrial products. Let the recent "drop" in copper awaken us to a sense of our abject condition.

RATING MINES TO THE POOR.

Sir,—I think there is considerable misapprehension with respect to the profits resulting from the working of mineral veins. Many believe that the average profits are immense, and give credit to the common advertisements of share dealers of their paying from 20 to 30 per cent. Indeed it has been stated to the committee that "As a whole (excepting coal and iron) the mining of Great Britain paid an enormous interest upon the outlay." Surely this statement cannot possibly mean the whole of the mines, but only the dividend mines. Had this been true it could not be considered a very great hardship to contribute a little towards the poor of their respective parishes. But what is the fact? It is that there is a great loss in the aggregate. The profits derived from the rich mines are not equal to the losses resulting from working the unproductive mines. Therefore the real or positive benefit by mining, as a whole, should not be considered as a direct benefit to the adventurers, but rather in giving employment to the population, training them in useful occupations, and the beneficial results derived therefrom to the owners of properties and to the nation at large. These facts are so well known and appreciated by other nations, as to induce them to give every encouragement to mining, by reducing the dues and exempting the mining companies from ordinary claims of the states.

I could name instances abroad where the Government gave up the dues altogether at my request, to encourage the adventurers to proceed for the benefit of the population of the district. Mr. Meredith very justly remarked that the losses in mining speculations were enormous, and that even in the rich district in which he resided (St. Austell) there had been an aggregate loss of £72,000, and that the richer mines are getting very deep and exhausted; therefore mining adventurers, as it is, have not much encouragement to invest their capital in mining. It follows that if English mining is to be taxed, English capital will leave this country for foreign mines, where the adventurers will meet with more encouragement to speculate in mining than in England.

Were mining to be rated at all, the rate ought to be limited to mines paying above 15 per cent. per annum on the outlay, but it would not be politic to do so. The best measure that could possibly be adopted at present, not only for the sake of mining industry, but for the benefit of the English population, would be to appoint a committee, to consider the expediency of requesting the owners of the mineral districts of Wales, North of England, Scotland, and Ireland, to reduce their dues. The adventurers have no reason to make complaints against the present committee. They appear to investigate the question fairly and openly, and it will be the adventurers' own fault if they do not succeed in their object, as they have ample materials for such a purpose.

GOLD MINING IN AUSTRALIA.

Sir,—I have repeatedly stated that many of the evils attending the English mining companies in foreign countries arise from the great tendency of directors and the shareholders to form opinions according to home views and wishes, and obstinately to act upon them, in direct opposition to the advice of their agents, and to the welfare of the undertakings abroad.

Mr. Guedalla, in your last Journal, makes the following observation:—"Why cannot the gold companies get any? Because not one appears ever to have made any active efforts to succeed. Their money and time have been alike wasted in fruitless negotiations with the Government or local courts, to obtain a monopoly of large pieces of ground, which, if obtained, they could hardly have retained against the strong arm of the main body of the diggers."

Mr. Guedalla might have added, "And if wrought by the companies the gold would have cost upwards of 5l. per ounce, and thus cause a loss to the shareholders of about 1l. for every ounce of gold obtained."

This is the estimate made by the Surveyor-General and others of the average cost of the gold extracted in the colony of Victoria last year. If this be true, the companies, instead of losing, save 1l. for every ounce of gold obtained by abstaining from digging for it. Under these conditions of the gold fields in the colony, the representative of a company should have the power to set and the knowledge to adapt his proceedings to suit the state and future prospects of the colony, and not to attempt to change the conditions of the colony, to suit the fancies and wishes of directors and the shareholders in London. I admit that many persons like Mr. Johnson have done remarkably well at the diggings, and, doubtless, will do so again; but those persons who have the knowledge and energy to select ground, and employ groups of diggers thereon, will never submit to play second fiddle to any other representatives of companies than themselves, under whatever title the directors may choose to send such representatives out.

Mr. Bland should not be blamed for living on the Port Phillip Company's premises, where he is able to attend to the only operations that have been as yet profitable to the company. If he is to be blamed at all, it is for carrying on works at Fryer's Creek and at the Ovens (with which he is totally unacquainted) before the company was prepared to do so, with some probability of success.

With respect to the "very nice house belonging to the shareholders, 276 miles away from the Ovens," together with the company's premises, making, assaying office, &c., in Melbourne, Mr. Bland is not to be blamed

for preserving and attending to this valuable property. It was I that bought the ground and erected these premises at the commencement, when I was under the impression that I was the person who was to establish this company. I recommended Mr. Bland to confine himself to that place, to buy, melt, and assay gold, until a more favourable period for field operations, and, above all things, until confidence had been restored; as the directors' strange proceedings and appointments at home had completely damaged the character of the company, before I had time to make a fair start, and determine on future plans.

Therefore, although the mode in which Mr. Bland was appointed and sent out to the colony to take charge of the Port Phillip Company's undertaking, and the very bad policy and ill spirit in which he himself commenced the business, may be considered reprehensible, yet, under the circumstances of the case, the company may be deemed fortunate in having such a person as Mr. Bland to retain possession of the property *pro tem*. Any ill-judged appointment now to remove Mr. Bland would only hurry the final ruin of the company's prospects in the colony. Unless the company can secure a competent and responsible person who may be capable of doing something good, and be allowed to do so by the directors, why remove Mr. Bland?

If Mr. Guedalla and others intend to call the shareholders together to discuss these matters, I trust they will avoid blaming and eliminating agents who are not present to defend themselves. Let shareholders reflect on the peculiar positions in which their agents are often placed, and how they are tied down by directors, and checked by the conditions and the obstacles of the colony. Shareholders need not be surprised at seeing old and faithful agents becoming indifferent to their interest, and disgusted with London companies. I am not at all surprised at some agents establishing themselves on their own account in competition to the companies, when the shareholders allow directors to neglect and mismanage their affairs, and to damage the reputation of their agents, by misrepresentations, and by means of hirings at meetings, to cover their own defects and shortcomings. These things are done daily, with the greatest impunity, in the presence of apathetic shareholders, and it is much to be regretted that absent agents should be made the scape-goats for the mismanagement at home.

Mr. Guedalla concludes by saying that he "only wished the directors of the companies could hear what was said at Melbourne." The directors must be well acquainted with such sayings, from the effects of their own doings. Impolitic appointments, unsuitable instructions, and perpetually tampering with their agents, at periods when success depends on confidence and support at home, must necessarily lead to unpleasant results. The colonials are not now much surprised at these things, but they are astonished that English shareholders should allow their capital to be so used. What they say in Melbourne is, "that it serves the shareholders right, and that if the whole of their property were to be taken from them by one of their agents, it is only what they deserve!"

Thurloe-square, June 30.

EVAN HOPKINS.

THE GOLD MINES OF VIRGINIA.

Sir,—It has hitherto been usual to consider Australia and California as the great sources from which the world is henceforth to receive its supplies of the precious metals. Few are prepared for the announcement, that there exists a district in the United States of America as productive in gold, silver, and platinum ores, as the richest of those favoured localities; but although the world at large is ignorant of the fact, it has long been known that certain parts of the State of Virginia are very rich in gold and silver ores, and no less than four mining companies have already been established for the purpose of obtaining and reducing them—the Waller Gold Mining Company, the Liberty, the Chancellorsville, and the Garnett and Moseley—all of which have been promoted and carried on by means of English capital.

It may be asked, How is it that these companies, with the means and appliances which capital provides at their command, have never succeeded as commercial enterprises? For I believe that not of them has paid dividends equal to common interest on the money embarked. The true answer to the question is—Want of proper and scientific management. The process of reduction and amalgamation of the rich ores undoubtedly raised by all of them, has in every instance been faulty and imperfect, and no yield of precious metals equivalent to the per centage contained in the ores has ever been obtained. The managers of these mines have hitherto thought it sufficient to crush their ore by means of Cornish stamps, and when thus reduced to a coarse sand, to shake it up with quicksilver, and the result in each case has been a great loss of quicksilver and a very small gain of gold. They have overlooked the fact, or if known have been ignorant how to remedy it, that the precious metals are almost always combined with sulphur in the ores, and that this destroys the mercury, and allows the gold to escape, so that the sand which passes as tailings from the amalgamator remains as rich, or very nearly so, as when first introduced into the shaking tables. A late invention, however, will effect a great change in the profits which may be expected to arise from these and similar mines.

Dr. Holland, of America, has discovered a process for desulphurising ores, which has already been tried by two of the above-named mines, and found to answer admirably. In the case of the Garnett and Moseley, the refuse tailings of the mine, of which enormous quantities exist, the result of many years' working, contain gold and silver to the value of 10l. per ton. The Liberty ores are said to be no less productive, and as the cost of working is small, a large margin is left for profit.

If the subject should prove interesting to your readers, I propose, Sir, to continue my remarks upon it, and to give you some account of the position and prospects of the above mines.

THE NORTH YORKSHIRE MAGNETIC IRONSTONE.

Sir,—Your Journal of last week contained an interesting abstract of an official report on the iron ores of the northern counties of England, but from some cause or other there is no mention whatever made of the various iron ores of the North Yorkshire oolite, which, from their accessible position, immense extent, thickness of seam, and excellent quality, certainly surpass in commercial value the ironstones of the mountain limestone, of the coal measures, and of the lias, all put together. It is evident that the learned geologists of Jermyn-street, from whom the report emanated, have not visited the North Riding very lately, or they would never have omitted to make known that the ironstone of the Cleveland district, lying on the top of the marlstone, formed but a fractional and subordinate portion of the iron ores of North Yorkshire. The most recent discoveries, one succeeding the other in different localities, have, however, disclosed to view the extraordinary bed of iron ore above alluded to, lying on the top of the alum shale, and capped by the freestone of the inferior oolite. It extends from the northernmost part of the eastern moorlands, round by Longdale, to the western escarpment of the Hambleton Hills, near Thirsk, cropping out, within the interior of the table land, on the sides of all the numerous extensive valleys, or dales, which characterise the Yorkshire oolite. This seam, as seen in the geological section of the country, lies from 200 ft. to 250 ft. above the Cleveland ironstone of the lias, so that it is now locally known as the "top bed," whilst the Cleveland is called the "bottom bed." From 5 ft. to 20 ft. in thickness it is remarkably free from sulphur, phosphorus, and other impurities, and contains from 30 to 55 per cent. of metallic iron by analysis, the chief bulk of the ore being a protoxide and protoferrite. The Newcastle ironmasters prefer it to the Cleveland ore of the lias, as it is entirely free from schistose impurities, which more or less adhere to the Cleveland iron in the puddling furnace, bothering the men and deteriorating the quality. At Whitby, and in the valley of the Esk, it lies from 20 to 30 ft. above the water level on both sides of the North Yorkshire Railway; it ascends the numerous dales to the south of the line, until the anticlinal axis is reached at an elevation of about 1400 ft., when it gradually descends southwards on both sides of Rosedale, Farndale, Bransdale, and Bilsdale. What a wondrous sight for an ironmaster to stand before a solid wall of this seam in Rosedale, 20 ft. high, containing 75 per cent. of pure protoxide of iron, and every particle of the mass highly magnetic!

At other places it is slightly silicious, reminding one of the Northampton ironstone; whilst in the Hambleton district, a few miles only from Thirsk station, the same bed contains nearly 20 per cent. of pure carbonate of lime, combined with 35 per cent. of metallic iron; and a little higher in the colliette measures there, a remarkable bed of rich hematite is found. Magnetic iron ore and hematite in the Yorkshire oolite are, indeed, geological novelties for science and trade. With plenty of coal and flux in the almost immediate neighbourhood of these ores, and with the great Cleveland seam besides, only 200 ft. below, what practical in-

ferences may not be drawn? When iron can thus be made for 40s. per ton in North Yorkshire, the future prospects of the South Staffordshire ironmasters are not encouraging.—June 28.

D. V.

IMPROVEMENTS IN IRON SMELTING.

Sir,—I was much struck with seeing, in your Journal of June 21, a notice of a report to the American Government on the chemistry of cast-iron; and perhaps you will permit me to bring an extract of it again before your readers:—

"Great advances have yet to be made in the manufacture of cast-iron, to improve its quality and reduce its cost. It requires 2 tons of coal to make 1 ton of pig-iron. We can easily conceive the benefit that would accrue to all if some inventor were to discover a process of manufacture with half this quantity of coal: we hope such an improvement will yet be made. Who can describe the benefits that would be conferred on our people if iron were sold at one-half its present price? It would tend to reduce the cost of machinery, and give an impetus to every branch of business in our country—agriculture, architecture, commerce, &c."

We see in the report, and in this portion of it especially, the anxious wish and belief in the future existence of some great and as yet unknown improvement; and as a response to it, we have Mr. Mickle's invention, which has been so ably brought before us through your Journal, and which will far more than realise the hope of the scientific and ingenious Americans whose report it is.

It is also fair warning to us on this side the Atlantic not to throw aside a great good, and let our best customers appropriate it, which their intelligence and quickness of apprehension will lead them to do.

Darlington, June 30.

AN ENGINEER.

P.S.—In last Saturday's Journal I see a reference to the opening out of iron-works in Devonshire. This agrees with one of the valuable suggestions contained in a notice of Mr. Mickle's patent, in the *Mining Journal* some time since, about the ores there; and it is to be hoped that the companies will comply with the other part of the suggestion, and have first-rate fuel as well as first-rate ore.

GOVERNMENT INSPECTION OF COAL MINES.

Sir,—Your correspondent "Coal Miner" has been pleased, in his wisdom, to designate my strictures on his attack on the Government examiners, and the successful candidates for the inspectorship of coal mines, as "a marvellous epistle."

I am not at all surprised to find that it appears so to him, for he always trades in the "marvellous." When professing writing for the information of his favourite "200,000 working colliers," in order to give his subject matter a touch of the "marvellous," he deals largely in Latin. So exceedingly "marvellous" are his notions of the most common-place things, that he cannot even discuss the appointment of an inspector of coal mines without calling to his aid the history of the empire, and the kingdom, from the earliest records of antiquity, to the latest periods of civilisation.

Pursuing the same "marvellous" strain, I observe, that in the introduction of his reply to my letter, he professes to write for "the information of the Home Office," and also "for the beauty and freshness of truth."

But as a climax to the "marvellous" self-esteem of "Coal Miner," he condescends to assure me that I am labouring under a painful mistake, if I suppose "Mr. Evans, personally, to be of that importance to justify the remarks in his letter." Doubtless, Mr. Editor, your correspondent, the "Coal Miner," is a "marvellous" man, and all things appear "marvellous" in his eyes. Yes! "he is the man, and wisdom will die with him."

"Coal Miner" sets out with entering his "unqualified protest against the unjust accusation of being a disappointed candidate."

"By their fruits shall ye know them," has been laid down as an infallible rule by which to judge of mankind, by the greatest authority in the universe.

Let "Coal Miner" descend from his "marvellous" pedestal of egotism, and place himself at the bar of your readers, in order that he may be tried by this standard. That he was candidate for the office of Government inspector of coal mines he has himself virtually admitted.

That he was unsuccessful is painfully made manifest.

That he has since made a series of attacks on the "Home Office," the "examiners," and the successful "candidates," the columns of your Journal bear witness.

That he has charged the Government authorities with having used their office "to further their own selfish purposes, and not the advancement of the public weal," is a recorded fact.

That he denies the existence in Mr. Smyth and Mr. Wood of the "great acquirements and profound abilities, or the rectitude of purpose, in discharging the onerous duties imposed upon them," necessary to their office, is also on record.

That in coupling the term "scientific viewer" with the name of Mr. N. Wood, he has "advisedly" designated it as "a great public fraud," the *Mining Journal* testifies.

That in speaking of the connection existing "between Mr. Wood, the examiner, and Mr. Evans, the examined," dark insinuations of being influenced by the lowest and most corrupt motives are wantonly thrown out, is patent to all your readers.

May I not, with the fullest confidence, ask do not these disgraceful and slanderous charges, and these malignant and repeated attacks on the characters of public men, fully represent the bitter fruits of disappointment. Alas! alas! "the grapes are sour."

I find in your correspondent, "Coal Miner," the singular coincidence, as I have always found it in the man who is first to attack, and the most reckless to question the motives, and slander away the character of his fellow-man, that of all others he is thinnest skinned when his own weapons are made to rebound upon himself.

"Coal Miner" would fain claim the martyr's honours, because he has received a slight censure with the rod which he had so carefully picked for the backs of others. Judging, however, from his changeable antecedents, there is no reason to apprehend that "Coal Miner" will ever die a martyr's death. But, strange to repeat, "Coal Miner" accuses—"To the best of my knowledge I have not subscribed to any false statements, have made no unjust accusations, nor condescended to indulge in vulgar epithets, ungentlemanly insinuations, and low comparisons with convicts."

To charge a whole body of public men with using their office "to further their own selfish purposes;" to speak of "the principles which regulated their proceedings" as being those of "private advancement, and questionable motives, jobbing," &c., to compare their conduct, and its results, with that of the spoilers and robbers of nations, who have brought about the downfall of mighty empires, and to place them in the same category with the worst political villains, who stand convicted in the pages of the history of "abusing the power, and entrusted by a confiding people to their charge, until the full measure of iniquity has been completed, and destruction ensued;" is not, according to "Coal Miner," either "unjust in accusation, false in statement, vulgar in epithet, ungentlemanly in insinuation, or low in comparison with convicts."

"Coal Miner" enquires, "is it not a legitimate subject to criticise the acts and motives of those employed in the public service?" My answer is, yes; decidedly so. It is not fair, candid, open, criticism of which I complain, but calling ugly names, slander, abuse, &c. Some men make it their boast "to despise Government; presumptuous as they self-willed, they are not afraid to speak of the policies of the Government." "Coal Miner" that there are exceptions to every rule, and that he appears to have placed himself in a false position, and thus rendered himself ineligible to take the critic's chair.

The claims which he has assumed to himself as the collier's guardian and protector against the wrongs and oppression of his cruel master, forcibly remind me of a certain pot of ointment, called "the poor man's friend." When it suits his circumstances, he appears to deal largely in this kind of salve; but no sooner does the Home Secretary make known his intention of engaging the services of additional Government inspectors, than we observe "Coal Miner" in the apothecary's countenance, who declares that the holding of a Government office is altogether incompatible with the leading of a social and political agitation.

"Coal Miner" is lured by "the important patronage of Sir George Grey, and the nutritious fruits which result from his bestowment," (mark, I quote his own words) and he is thus made willing to drop the "patriot," and become the "placeman." Alas! how soon does "the bright gold become dim." He tries his chance! he is watchword. Not only is there oppression in the colliery office, but there is likewise corruption in the Home Office. Committee of the House of Commons, Secretary of State, examiners, successful candidates; all, all, are defiled except the innocent but disappointed man, who went back to the black north with a feather in his tail. I hold, that whoever has or has not a right to criticise these matters, it comes with a very bad grace indeed for "Coal Miner" publicly to censure transactions in which he attempted most earnestly, but unsuccessfully, to play his own part of the game.

In reference to the objections which have been taken to the connection which is said to have existed between Messrs. Wood and Evans, there is one answer which will satisfy every unprejudiced mind.

It was essentially necessary that the Government examiners should be chosen from gentlemen both scientifically and practically acquainted with colliery mining operations. I think it will be admitted by all competent and candid judges, that the qualifications I have mentioned could not be better represented than in the persons of Messrs. Wood and Smyth. Both these gentlemen, from their high position and standing in the colliery districts, both north and south, and throughout the kingdom, are necessarily acquainted, and in many cases intimately connected, with the acknowledged intelligence of those districts on mining questions. This being the case, if Mr. Evans is to be rejected on the ground of his happening to be the manager of a colliery where the services of Mr. Wood may have occasionally been called in as a scientific viewer; then, on the same principle, Messrs. Wood and Smyth must necessarily have ignored the best intelligence, and thrown overboard the most practical miners that this kingdom can produce; and the only resource left for them would have been the rough diamonds, which, according to "Coal Miner," are to be plentifully found among "Nature's nobility, on the shoulders of whom the inspiring mantle has been negligently but effectively thrown."

The result of all this would have been that the coalmasters would all at once have found themselves surrounded by a number of political agitators, whose improved system of ventilation would have been directed to the wage book in the office, rather than to the air-ways in the colliery.

Follow out this principle, and the various officers to be selected for the civil and military services of the State are no longer to be chosen from those whose practical acquirements have been previously and satisfactorily tested—"collegiate and academical training" are to be rejected, and we are to trust to the "Gods" to select for us, from "Nature's nobility," the future successors of our Wellingtons and Nelsons, our Pitts, Peels, Broughams, &c.

The only question which would settle the point at issue, in the mind of the candid enquirer, in reference to Mr. Evans, would be, does he possess the requisite qualifications for the intelligent and independent discharge of the onerous duties which devolve upon him? I maintain he does, and that in a superior degree. "Coal Miner" lays it down as a rule "admitted by all, that different coal districts require an inspector having a knowledge and experience of each district which he is appointed to inspect." In this respect, Mr. Evans is quite at home. Not one colliery in twenty, throughout the whole range of his district, can either understand or communicate a sentence in the English language. Mr. Evans is daily to be met with, "going in and out" amongst the working colliers, conversing with them in their own language; and thus a considerable advantage.

The collier can communicate his complaints to the Government inspector, without the medium of an interpreter, who may with the next breath turn informer. It is a remarkable fact that not a single individual who professes to know anything personally of Mr. Evans's qualifications has called them

in question. Within his own district all is calm. I am in daily communication with numbers of working colliers, to many of whom Mr. Evans has been personally known from his youth up, and I have only heard one expression of opinion on his appointment, and that is one of the greatest confidence and satisfaction. All this "row, this rumpus, this riot," is heard from the far distant north; it is not a legitimate, but a manufactured agitation, and principally confined to "disappointed candidates." How, I ask, can the working colliers of the North of England and of Scotland feel aggrieved by the appointment of an inspector to a South Wales district? Something has been said about petitions and memorials, &c., to the "Home Office," but where are they to be made? Your correspondents, "Coal Miner" and "Candidate," may perhaps get a few signed by meddling parties, some three or four hundred miles distant from Mr. Evans's district. Well, let them try it on, and they shall be met by counter petitions and counter memorials, numerous signed by the working colliers from every corner of his (Mr. Evans's) own district.

The strange remarks of your correspondent "Coal Miner," on "scientific views," coupled with his condemnation of "collegiate and general academic training," fully expose to naked view the wild and visionary notions which he entertains on educational and practical subjects, and will leave your readers without surprise at any insane crochets which he may in the future put forth. There is, however, one consolation, and that is that these extravagances and absurdities carry with them their own antidote, and fall harmless on the public ear.

Justice.

Llanelli, June 28.

IMPROVED TREATMENT OF GOLD QUARTZ.

Sir,—Allow me, through the medium of your Journal, to call the attention of the public to what I think might be an economical improvement on the present system of extracting the precious metals, especially gold, from the rock. What I would suggest is the substitution of an aqueous solution for the mercury at present employed to dissolve out the metal from the ore. I would recommend for trial the solution of chlorine, bromine, or nitro-muriatic acid (these not applicable for silver, however), and more particularly the solution of cyanide of potassium, or other alkali metal; or, in case the fumes from the cyanide should prove troublesome (though by conducting the process in closed vessels all inconvenience from this source might, I believe, be avoided), some of the double cyanogen salts, as the ferro-cyanide or ferrid-cyanide, which emit no hydro-cyanic fumes, might be employed.

By the substitution for mercury of one of the above-named or analogous substances, we might expect to derive, amongst others, the following advantages:—

1. Diminished expense by the use of a cheaper solvent.
2. The pulverisation and trituration of the rock would not require to be carried so far, from the more penetrative nature of the solvent.
3. The unhealthy effects of mercury would be avoided.

The separation of the dissolved metal would finally be easy, and might be produced either by galvanism, by precipitation by one of the common metals, or by precipitation by other substances, well known to the chemist. I might easily multiply suggestions and detail experiments, but hope that what I have said may be enough to call attention to the feasibility of some process less laborious than what is now in use, or to induce some one who has the materials for experiment to give the plan a trial on a sufficient scale to test fairly its value, which abstract reasonings alone, or even experiments on a small scale, can never thoroughly do. By any one having a sufficient quantity of gold quartz at his command such a process may be tested at a very small expense, as the precious metal, or any part of it, not taken up by the aqueous solvent must, of course, remain where it was, as accessible as ever to the old mercurial or any other process.—*Old Aberdeen, June 26.* An Experimentalist.

IRISH PEAT COMPANY.

Sir,—In your Journal of last Saturday, I noticed an extremely short account of the meeting held on the previous Wednesday, from which it appears that the Munich system of drying is likely to succeed; but I cannot altogether understand how the company's affairs are going on. I have no capital invested in the undertaking, but am ever anxious to see the success of enterprise in Ireland, and especially when the management of a concern appears honest and straightforward. From what I can learn, the peat drying by artificial means is likely in every way to succeed; but, unfortunately, this is not the first time that success has appeared certain, and has not been realised. I suppose, from the length of your report, that the old adage is to be verified—Least said, soonest mended.

But, seriously, what I wish to know is, the progress that has been made in the manufacture of iron, which I saw referred to in your report of a meeting held some time since. If I am right, the dried peat was used to equal charcoal iron, and that the ore was obtained near the works at a small expense, I am not asking this question from mere inquisitiveness; but from the fact that had this iron been manufactured I should most likely have become a large consumer, and I have no doubt but that the demand for it would have been considerable in many other quarters.

Wolverhampton, June 30.

SPECULATION IN MINES.

Sir,—There are frequent complaints, by speculative adventurers in mines, of the large amount of loss to which they have occasionally to submit from the variations in the market price of shares, which bring discredit upon mining enterprise generally, although most unjustly. The cause of these complaints is that in the mining share market there is seldom a steady moderate business doing in any particular stock—there being usually either an extreme of exuberance or extreme dullness. For instance, with out any material alteration in the general appearance of the mine, the Wheel Basset shares rose, in a comparatively short time, to nearly ten times their market price previous to their becoming a "star" upon the market. Rosewarne's rose from about par to 15 or 16 times that of the amount paid, and are even now quoted from 75 to 90 and with every other mine at this moment in public favour the same fluctuation has taken place. Now, I do not intend to say that the fact of a mine becoming profitable should be no inducement to the buyer to give an advanced price, but I contend much damage is done to mining by the too great eagerness of intending adventurers, immediately on the mine being opened, to pay dividends, on the one hand, and the too great disregard for all mines which have not actually paid dividends on the other.

Were capitalists to pay less regard to the brokers' recommendations, and watch more narrowly their own interest, those mines for which there is such extraordinary demand, at exorbitant rates of premium, would be the last to attract their notice; whilst those with fair prospects and good management (which most mines managed by London secretaries are particularly free from, although there are, of course, exceptions) would be more the object of their consideration. The present is an excellent opportunity for buying in most mines; and by a judicious selection I think a fair remuneration might be obtained for the capital invested.

City, June 25.

ANTI-SPECULATIVE.

THE COST-BOOK PRINCIPLE—CWMIDYLE ROCK MINE.

Sir,—Our attention has been called to some remarks in your Journal, relative to the late cause of "Thomas and Anderson v. Cwmidyale Rock Mining Co., Ltd.," in which the plaintiffs were open to a charge of want of caution in having commenced an action against a non-registered shareholder in a cost-book mining company. We beg leave to remind you that the defendant was a shareholder; but in consequence of his statements at the trial, the jury came to the conclusion that the registry had been effected by the transferor (Mr. Lutyens), in breach of an engagement to the contrary, and, consequently, that the defendant's name had been placed upon the register without his sanction, and upon that ground they gave their verdict in his favour. These circumstances were unknown to the plaintiffs and to ourselves: Mr. Lutyens had been dead for some months past. How far any secret trust or arrangement of this nature ought to affect a bona fide creditor, without notice, is a question upon which it is unnecessary now to offer any opinion.

Old Jersey, London, July 1.

MENDIP HILLS MINING COMPANY.

Sir,—It is only recently that I have seen an account of the meeting of this company, held on May 21; and, as I am desirous of further information, I shall feel obliged if I can obtain it through your Journal.

On Oct. 5, the following figures were shown me in the London office, the originals of which are in the Chairman's writing, and now in my possession:—

Monthly cost—May	£372 16 8
" June	510 18 10
" July	403 3 7
" August	314 10 3 = £1601 9 4

Lead sales—50 tons	£21 5 0
" 50 tons	21 10 0
" 50 tons	21 10 0
" 50 tons	22 0 0
" 50 tons	22 5 0

At the same time, the Chairman writes:—"I have sold another 100 tons of lead, and prices are getting up. I hope we shall shortly have a further supply ready for the market. All the floors are producing about the same as usual."

Therefore, we have 300 tons sold for £6325
100 tons ditto, price not named (say, same as last, 22s. 3s.). 2225 = £8550

Add to the above another supply shortly (query, 50 or 100 tons), and the floors producing much as usual.

A few days after, I received a circular for a call of 7s. per share. You may imagine my surprise, having seen the above figures the previous week, showing a profit of 4000l. in four months. I wrote to the Chairman for an account showing the necessity of the call, to which he demurred. I have over and over again applied, but in vain. I will now refer to the account, as stated in your Journal of May 24:—

Net proceeds of lead sold to Dec. 31, 1855	£7387 10 1
Payments, including dues	5525 9 7
Total	£1862 0 6

Contrast this with the October statement for four months—Ore sold for 6525l., at the cost of 1001l. 9s. 1d., besides 100 tons named as sold, but no price stated, and another supply shortly ready. If any of your correspondents can throw more light on this statement, I shall be much obliged.—*July 2.* A. E.

THE RHOSYDD SLATE COMPANY.

Sir,—Although I am not in the habit of replying to anonymous correspondents, yet I cannot refrain from making a few remarks relative to the suggestion of "A Shareholder," to appoint a committee of investigation, to enquire into the system of working adopted at this quarry, because the undertaking is not yet brought into a dividend-paying state, or the representations made at the outset, and subsequent to the establishment, of the company have not been realised.

Your correspondent is probably one of those unfortunate beings who consider that an expenditure of 30000l. will open a quarry, and produce 60000l. worth of slate the first year; and if he has been led into the adventure with such assurances from London reporters, designated C.E.'s, I sincerely pity him. If your correspondent, instead of rustivating at Brighton, had taken a trip into the Principality, he could have inspected many of the neighbouring quarries, and have ascertained that none of the profitable ones had been brought into that state without an expenditure of from 100,000l. to 100,000l., and after a lapse of from seven to twenty years. After such inspection, I would then recommend him to visit Rhosydd, and take with him a practical man, together with a statement of the expenditure of the company, and thus satisfy himself as to the judiciousness of the outlay. He will then find that, up to the end of last year, 13,935 cubic yards of soil and top-rock had been removed, at prices varying from 8d. to 1s. 6d. per yard; and that 52,166½ tons had been likewise removed, at prices from 3d. to 1s. 3d. per ton, involving an outlay of 21,135.6s. 6d.; also that 26,056 tons of rubbish had been removed, at prices varying from 4d. to 1s., and

at a cost of 10721. 10s.; also that 10,621 cubic yards of rock had been cut, at prices varying from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per yard, and at a cost of 18099. 19s.; that a level had been driven 137½ yards, at 3s. and 12d. per yard, which cost 6387. 2s. 6d.; and that, in sinking shafts, open cutting and unearthing, and other labour, 22041. 10s. 1d. has been spent; and, with purchase of quarry, machinery and materials, and manufacture of slate, the sum of 50,637. 6s. 6d. had been expended.

I do not know, in my experience of slate quarries and mining companies, a more elaborate statement and proper classification of the expenditure of an undertaking than that produced by the Rhosydd Slate Company. I am, moreover, informed that a committee of investigation, who hold about one-half of the shares of the company, meet fortnightly at the office; and that every month a statement of the expenditure at the quarry is submitted, detailing the number of yards and tons of rock and rubbish removed, the respective prices given, and the amount earned by each man during the month. Moreover, that two of the committee of management and a shareholder, holding nearly one-fifth of the shares of the company, are resident on the spot, and exercise a supervision of the expenditure.

With such management and such statements of the outlay, I really think your correspondent has no cause to complain; and I believe he may rest assured that his units, like mine, are protected by those who hold their thousands.

K. WYTH.

NATIONAL BRAZILIAN MINING ASSOCIATION.

Sir,—I am not in any way identified with the proceedings in the Court of Chancery—Sheppard v. Oxenford—or prompted by any individual to write this letter; but it does appear to me (an interested party) a desirable thing that at the present stage of these proceedings the antagonists should pause, and ask themselves whether any means can be devised to settle the affair amicably, and whether it is not on all hands desirable that it should be withdrawn from Chancery litigation.

That Mr. Oxenford has a legal claim on the estates there can be no doubt, although there may be a doubt as to whether he is taking the best course to obtain its liquidation. It is a most extraordinary position for any property to be placed in, in which so much has been invested, and which is of such unquestionable value. The course which appears to be the most suitable under present circumstances, looking at the relative position of the contending parties, is to refer the whole to arbitration. There can be no difficulty in obtaining the assistance of some legal gentleman of high character, independent of either party in the contest, in whom all could confide, and to whose decision all would be prepared to assent, and thus settle this difficult and painful contest. No time would appear more suitable than the present for the adoption of such a measure, no triumph having been obtained on either side.

Mr. Oxenford is advanced in years, and consequently must find the inconvenience of the pressure of legal proceedings. He has hitherto occupied a responsible and honourable position in connection with the properties. Mr. Sheppard and the gentlemen associated with him are men of high character: surely there ought to be no difficulty in the adoption of measures for an amicable settlement.

I would urge this upon the serious consideration of all parties concerned. The sooner the whole is set free from the inconvenience of law, and the properties placed on that footing which shall ensure their development, and make them productive, the better for the interests and comfort of all.

A SHAREHOLDER.

MEXICAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN COMPANY.

Sir,—The disinterested eye-witness, in your last Journal, who writes from Chili, under the April 17, is, I believe, no other than the notorious Mr. Robert Edward Alison, our late chief superintendent. This person is under a very great delusion. If he imagines the directors have kept the facts with regard to his proceedings from the knowledge of the shareholders, his own letter contains a confession that his dismissal was published in every paper on Feb. 2; and his dismissal was certainly not in consequence of his virtues, as every shareholder who has called at the company's office has been fully informed.

As Mr. R. E. Alison has taken up the pen for the enlightenment of the shareholders, while he is about it he will, perhaps, as he is so communicative, give a few particulars as to how he has conducted himself. It will be very interesting to know how Mr. Alison came to take the bricks and materials that we sent out for our own use to build up his works alongside of us; how, in the quality of representative of the Mexican and South American Company, he came to cancel the agreements of the clerks, chemists, foremen, samplers, weighers, and all the best smelters (as he enumerates), and then, as representative of the opposition, to get them to engage with himself; and how he came to employ the workmen and materials of the company in building his smelting works at Tambillo and Guayacón. He will, perhaps, likewise be kind enough to state why he gave directions to the foreman not to let the men work on the mine, but to let them work on the road, and the next day taking possession to turn him out. Perhaps this was likewise done out of his tender regard for the shareholders.

When Mr. Alison states the truth with regard to his past conduct it will be time enough to pay attention to his letter now before us, and the others that are to follow. Meanwhile the shareholders are perfectly satisfied they have got rid of a man who has nefariously attempted to possess himself of their property and business; and that the works which he subsistently states are in a dilapidated and ruinous state, and prove highly advantageous to the company's interests in other respects.

So far from Mr. Alison impudently claiming our thanks for the profits which he says he made, and for his help in obtaining the funds necessary to carry on the concern, it will be as well if he remembers the munificence of the shareholders to him, when they took him by the hand in the day of his ruin, and the ungrateful return he has made to his benefactors.

If the directors forget Mr. Alison's merits at the ensuing meeting, he may rely upon it they will not be forgotten by the shareholders, whose trust he has abused.

June 30.

A SHAREHOLDER.

THE MINING COMPANY OF IRELAND.

The half-yearly general meeting of shareholders was held at their offices in Dublin, on Thursday, when the following report of the operations of the company for the past half-year (the profits during which period amounted to 11,497. 13s. 11d.) was read:—

KNOCKMAMON MINES (County Waterford).—The directors have the pleasure to report that the Knockmamon Copper Mines have been worked with success during the past half-year. The produce has exceeded that of the previous half-year, and the small decrease in the price of copper has not materially affected the standard value of copper. A sum of 2439. 2s. 3d. has been expended in laying open new ground, sinking shafts, and in the works of a prospective character. A tramway has also been laid down, and is at present in operation for conveying the ore from the pit's mouth to the dressing-floors, whereby it is expected a considerable saving will be effected in the carriage expenses.

LOGANES MINES (including GLENDALOUGH).—These mines have realised, within the period of the present account, a profit of 4444. 1s. 3d., independent of a sum of 814. 19s. 6d. realised from the sale of the residue of the dressing-floors and machinery of your new Glendalough Mine, thus justifying the favourable opinion of your board as to the value of the property.

SILVERDAUGH COLLIERIES.—Your collieries show a profit on the half-year's working of 3501. 12s. 6d., and are in efficient working order, having a six months' stock of coal and culm at bank, and are capable of producing a sufficient supply for any increased consumption likely to arise. During the half-year a sum of 2451. 8s. 6d. has been expended in driving Garrynacole level—a work which, when completed, will accomplish an extensive and permanent drainage of the adjoining coal fields, and prove highly advantageous to the company's interests in other respects.

BALLYCOON LEAD-WORKS.—The working of this establishment has been necessarily suspended for the greater portion of the last half-year, during the erection of new machinery, with a view to an improved and economical system of working, under the superintendence of Mr. Jenkins, a gentleman of considerable experience and scientific acquirements in the conduct of smelting operations. This has necessarily entailed an expenditure of 11281. 0s. 6d.

LISACOLLE MINES (County Cork).—An account of our dividends has been incurred amounting to 7201. 11s. 5d., in prosecuting searches in this royalty, and the prospects are such as to induce your directors to persevere still further.

CAIRNS MINE has caused an expenditure of 201. 2s. 10d.

In conclusion, the board recommend that a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum (free of income tax) be declared, payable on and after the 10th inst.

TAMAR SILVER-LEAD MINING COMPANY.

A general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Gresham-street, on Monday, Mr. P. D. Hadow in the chair.

Mr. GEORGE (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last, which were confirmed.

The following statement of accounts for five months, ending with cost for April, 1856, was submitted:

Balance from last account, including 2299. 13s. 3d. standing to the credit of the reserve fund	£239 8 5
Vote to directors and Mr. Wolferton	£115 10 0
Dividend on 9000 shares, at 2s. 6d. per share	1200 0 0
Lead ore sold	2845 18 4
Total	£5769 16 9

Mine cost from Dec. 1855, to April, 1856 £45 11 9 |

Discount 25 0 0 |

Directors' attendances (one quarter to February) 25 0 0 = 4853 5 9 |

Leaving balance in favour of mine £2016 11 0 |

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the accounts, stated that there was a falling off of nearly 2000l. in the balance, which arose through a deficiency in the supply of ore, and had caused considerable anxiety to the board. Their lease will expire in 1857, and obstacles had been thrown in the way at the Duchy Office, in Somerset House, as they only proposed to renew it for 18 months, which would incur an additional expense.

Mr. WOLFERTON then addressed the meeting as follows:—"Since the last meeting the 215 ft. level has been extended 9 fms. 3 ft. 6 in. south. The ground is now much easier, and we expect to drive the rate of 3 fms. per month. The lode in the end is 2 ft. wide, and worth 12 cwt. of ore per fm. When the change of ground took place, a winze in the bottom of the 205 was drained, and we have been enabled to resume sinking it. The lode in it is 2½ ft. wide, and worth 12 cwt. of ore per fathom. This winze is about 30 fms. before the end, and we may, therefore, expect to lay open a long run of good ore ground in this level. The stopes behind the end are yielding 10 cwt. of ore per fm. The 205 fm. level has been driven 13 fms. 3 ft. towards the shoot of ore gone down in the 190 fm. level. The stopes in the back of this level are yielding 7 cwt. of ore per fathom. The 190 fm. level has been extended 28 fms. 1 ft. 6 in. The lode in the end is 1½ ft. wide, and worth 10 cwt. of ore per fathom. We are sinking a winze in the bottom of this level, in order to ventilate the 205; and as soon as it is down we shall drive north from it to meet the 205 end, and thus facilitate the opening of this level, which is of great importance. The stopes in the back of the 190 are yielding—No. 1, 10 cwt.; No. 2, 8 cwt.; and No. 3, 7 cwt. of ore per fm. The stopes in the back of the 175 fm. level, on the eastern side, are producing 8 cwt. of ore per fm.; those in the back of the 160, 7 cwt.; and in the back of the 125, 6 cwt. of ore per fm. I do not anticipate being able to raise more than 40 tons of ore per month, until we cut the lode in the 205 fm. level, when we shall, no doubt, be able to increase the returns very considerably.

The accounts were then unanimously adopted, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

The forthcoming Vend of Coals on the river Wear will show the largest shipments that have yet taken place during the first six months of any single year.—*Sunderland Herald.*

ON THE GRANITE OF CORNWALL AND DEVON.

BY NICHOLAS ENKOW, OF WILMINGTON.

Sir,—I had no intention of again troubling you until I had recovered from the fatigues of my late journey into Cornwall and Devon; but as I notice that I have an opponent in the field, and not an over civil one either, under the name of J. Williams (which I believe to be fictitious), I beg to remark that, if he were a constant reader of your useful Journal, instead of a casual one, he would be aware that I have written through an explanation of Berehaven copper formation; and I, therefore, consider it unnecessary to trouble you with a repetition, to oblige Mr. Williams, who admits that he has never seen the mine.

He should have first confined himself to the granite of Cornwall and Devon, and have given us a lesson concerning what it is composed of, and why it possesses such attractive powers as to cause the great bulk of all the tin and copper passing through the earth within 50 miles (or I might say 100 miles) to collect within two or three miles of its boundary. In fact, tin is only to be found in proximity with granite.

Then, I ask, which of its component parts have that attractive power to cause it to gather near? or does either act as a flux, and cause it to settle or become fixed when nearing its limits? These are points worthy the attention of thinking men.

If I were to judge Mr. Williams by his letter, I should consider he does not know the granite formation of his own district, when he asks me where he could stand, in the granite of two counties, and not be within two or three miles of granite? Had he known the district, or ever cast his eye on a geological map, he would have discovered that genuine granite passes through the middle of the two western counties in nearly a straight line, and a second from near Bottle Hill Mine to Okehampton, near last arm in Exmouth great clay road, east of which not a particle of granite or tin is ever seen in England.

I next ask Mr. Williams to treat himself to a week's recreation, and ride from Redruth to St. Columb, Camelford, Looe, and Exeter; then cross over, and start from Tavistock to Callington, Lostwithiel, St. Austell, Truro, and back to Redruth. After which, he may tell us how many hills of granite he leaves on his left, either in going up or down, when, I have no doubt, some ploughboy on his way will inform him of the distance from Launceston to Hartland, and from Exeter to Tavistock; also telling him it is all in slate-rock. On his way down, any fishmonger at Callington will tell him how far it is to Cawsand; if not, there is one at Liskeard who will surely tell him how far it is to Foberro, and how many granite hills he will have to surmount. But, to cut this controversy short, and stop the loophole he alludes to, I will venture to offer Mr. Williams 20l. each for every tin or copper mine he can point out three miles from granite that ever paid its outcrop to the tin, or copper mine north and south sides of the east and west direction of the granite through the two western counties, omitting pans of kyllas that casually cross the ridge, and even then the granite cannot possibly be half a mile deep; say at East Alford, for instance. Then, again, there is a pan of kyllas, east of Bal-Due, that crosses through from Newland to Truro, and on to the South Sea. I will give him this over the bargain, and a second east of Lostwithiel.

This will certainly set the granite question at rest.

Now will Mr. J. Williams, and his celebrated friend who he calls to his aid, pick up my 20l. for each mine? Or will they withdraw, and allow me to adopt the language of "J. G.," in your last week's Journal, by asking them—

"If convicted of a blunder,

"Will they avail rather than knock under?"

surely not. I surmise Mr. Williams has committed a blunder, and is working in search of a copper mine over my prescribed limits; then, I say, retrace your steps; you are not the only one who has erred; but come out manfully, and write me a private letter in your real name, otherwise I shall not notice any future remarks from you; but if you do this, I will again go through the Berehaven case, and ask you to explain why no tin is found near Berehaven, or even in what is termed Irish or Scotch granite? In fact, all genuine granite collects tin, and Scotch and Irish granite will not.

I would point out a tin from a lead granite in any part of the world. Will Mr. Williams tell us the difference?

When at Redruth, a few weeks since, I was asked to dine with some friends. I had not been seated three minutes before a very consequential person entered the room, to whom I had the honour of being introduced, who, at once attacked me, and not in the most courteous manner, saying I had broached a new theory, and it was time for some one to correct me. He then said he had a theory of his own he would teach me. I asked him if he thought of horsewhipping me into the same way of thinking; and then called on him to explain what his theory was. I quickly learned that he claimed to be descended from Vulcan, and believed the globe to have been once a molten mass, and all creation to be of the salamander species, and to have passed through the fiery ordeal. He said he could take a mixture of A. B. and C. and after melting it in a pot, and pouring it into a mould, turn it out granite. For a considerable time I listened to him, and then asked if he would allow me to make a few observations in reply? To my request he turned deaf ear. I was then obliged to inform him that his conduct was most ungentlemanly, and especially to condemn my theory without a hearing.

This silenced him for a few minutes, when I entered into an explanation, but it did not meet his views, and he cried out it was not so. To my next remark he exclaimed, "That is a lie," after which I at once informed him that I would not attend to go into any further discussion with him, unless there was a chairman to call him to order; and concluded by asking him if he supposed the ingredients he placed in the pot when taken out would prove to be of the same component parts as Cornish granite, if analysed? To which he answered in the affirmative. I then offered to bet him 5l. to the contrary, but he declined; after which I only thought it a waste of time to attempt to discuss a subject with him. Subsequently I was informed that he attempts to lecture in public; therefore he took umbrage at my view being opposed to his. From the tenor of J. Williams's remarks, I am inclined to think he is the same person, under an assumed name, and I shall pass by any further observations from the said J. Williams, unless I am convinced of the contrary by a private letter.

It is a well known fact, that every man who attempts to show the errors of the old school has a battle to fight. Four-fifths of the host stick to the motto—"I'll do as my fathers did before me."

Mr. Hopkins recently made some good, although somewhat severe, remarks on the majority of the practical agents, with which I quite agree.

I admit they know how to set a bargain or tribute pitch, but the law of stratification forms no part of their training; it appears beyond their comprehension. If they chance to hear of any one who would not work half century in advance they feel alarmed, and instead of adopting the good old motto—"Persevere," they often pour out a torrent of abuse, in which they at once condemn themselves.

A few weeks since, when in town, I fell in with three men, selected to go to the Cape, and entered into conversation with them. Amongst other things, I asked them what stratification they were accustomed to, to which they replied, "All sorts."

"Do you know granite and kyllas?" "Yes." "What other rocks do you know?"

"Evans and capels." When I informed them mine and geology were the same, they called me a fool, or, at least, a person who did not know his own business.

"Do you know the general law of stratification, as laid down by geologists, and that some stratifications are generally known to be mineral-bearing ones, whilst others are not; and also that some are only known to bear iron?" "No." I then said,

"What will you do when you get to the Cape, if you find no granite or kyllas; and where will you go in search of ore?" "Where we can see rock." "Then you would do so without any guide, for want of knowing the general law of stratification?"

"Yes." "Have you any books with you, showing the laws of stratification, or any other mining books?" I then advised them to purchase a few, and make good use of them on the voyage, to which they made no reply.

All this took place at the Bull Hotel. About half an hour after I left: I had not proceeded further than the Exchange before some one tapped me on the shoulder. On turning round, I found it was the foreman of the three. After apologising for so accosting me, he earnestly solicited me to inform him what books he could purchase that would be useful to him. Being pressed for time, I gave him Mr. Hopkins's address, advising him to purchase his work; and told him to ask Mr. Hopkins to select a useful work on geology and one on mineralogy, which Mr. Hopkins had for them to peruse during their passage out, and the fee could borrow and lend. He then thanked me, and left apparently much pleased.

Now, I ask the public at large if there is any mystery in the foreign speculations proving failures? Can it be expected to be otherwise when the parties in power, in 18 cases out of 20, select either a Practical who has had no training as regards the laws of stratification, or a trained geologist who has had no practical. Of the two the former often proves the best—they are not so expensive, and can work if required.

Before any person was sent on such a mission, he should pass an examination as to ability; and nothing would be lost if the leading chosen men were presented with 10l. each, and sent for a month into the North of England, to examine the mineral-bearing formations of that district.

The cause of foreign failures are not chargeable to the men sent out, but to the parties selecting them, who too often choose incompetent persons. This, combined with reckless expenditure, is sure to wind up the concern, leaving many a needy shareholder minus of his hard-earned cash.

If it were generally known that parties, previous to being sent to any foreign mine, had to pass a regular examination before a board of practical and theoretical men, we should have a superior class in the field; and it is nothing more than fair that such men should pass a scrutinising examination. See the tens of thousands of pounds dependent on their ability, and every shareholder is in the hands of men who are too often untrained.

I passed an examination for a managing agent to be sent to South America in 1854, for Messrs. Herring, Graham, and Powles, of Freeman's-court, before Mr. Ross, then the manager of the Beralston Mines, besides a host of other scientific men, and they selected me out of 500; among whom I saw young men I could name, who did then and do now think a vast deal of themselves, turned out.

Dalley, now living at St. Austell, to be a miner, and who, I am happy to say, was not refused, and, much to his credit, worked his way up to what he now is.

In conclusion, I beg to say that I very much question if Mr. Williams will not prove to be a man of little training, similar to those I have alluded to, when I know him to be his true colours.

FIFTH DAY—TUESDAY, JULY 1.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.—A portrait model of Marshal Pelissier has just been completed and placed in the war group. This popular soldier is represented in the costume of a marshal, decorated with the Grand Cross of the Bath; this noble distinction having lately been presented to the gallant officer by Lord Gough as a testimony of Her Majesty's regard for his valuable services during the struggle in the Crimea.

BRITISH MINES.

previously in depth or taking of the very valuable ore growths in this part of the mine. The pump work has been altered from drawing lifts into plungers, which has of late affected the cost, and there are still sundry jobs to be completed, immediately after which the sinking should be commenced. In the southern levels the shafts of ore are also increasing in length, as will be seen by examining the section of the mine, and there is every prospect, from present indications, that this part of the mine will be found much more productive in depth. The lode at and about Towsey's shaft has a very promising appear-

GREATER WHEAL, FRED.—M. W. Menell, w. Beaghenoe, w. Arturd, sink:—The 180, east of Painter's, is set to cross-cut through the south part of the lode, at 124. per fm. Nothing has been done in the 180 west since our last. In consequence of the men being removed to eat clistern pit in the 170 for fixing a 10 fm. drawing lift. The 170 is set to cut through the south part of the lode, at 96. per fm.: we have a daily increase of water from this end, which we think will soon drain Copper-house shaft, being now within 6 or 7 fms. of it. The lode in the 160 is 3½ ft. wide, pri-

HOLLAND.—J. Bennett, July 2. The lode is set to the same in value as reported on last week, worth full 72 per fm.; set to six men, 2 fms., at \$1. 15c. per fm. In the 5, driving east, we have a branch of ore and spar about 7 in. wide, but the main part of the lode here will, in my opinion, form 12 in. in the bottom of the end and rise as it goes east; set to four men, 1 fm., at 60 cts. All the landing in the mine has been set to two men, 1 month, 12c. per week each.

The engine-shaft is sunk 4 fms. under the 44. The lode in the 44 north is 3 ft. producing 12 cwt. of lead per fm.; in the same level south it is 2 1/4 ft. wide, producing 12 cwt. of lead per fm. In the 33 north it is 4 ft. wide, producing 1

In the Bullion Market.—Prices are nominal. There has been a considerable falling off in the imports of the precious metals during the week.

Notices to Correspondents.

PURIFYING SULPHUR FROM COKE.—Sir: Referring to the query in your Journal of June 29, respecting purifying sulphur from coke, your "Constant Subscriber" can obtain every information from Mr. Robert Longdon, jun., King-street, Manchester, who is the agent for Calvert's patent. —SUSSEXIAN, Manchester, July 2.

DOCTOR AND CLUB FUND.—Sir: Will you allow me to suggest, through the medium of your Journal, the necessity of every mine which has in connection with it a doctor and club fund making their position known at this juncture? It is most important that the extent to which this mode of relieving sickness and casualties prevails should be understood. The subject has been brought with some force before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, but has not been sustained with that amount of evidence which it deserves. Such facts as those adduced at the London Tavern meeting, if multiplied to any extent, could not fail to produce a proportionate effect when the subject of rating becomes one of parliamentary debate. —MINER, St. Austell, July 1.

"C. N." (Alton).—No decision has been arrived at in either case. The particulars will appear in the Journal immediately they can be obtained.

RATING OF MINES.—However we may differ with Mr. Michael Williams as to the course he has thought proper to pursue with respect to the rating of mines question, we cannot allow of his attempt to be made the medium of such personal remarks as those of "Cornubia" (Redruth). Our correspondent can take what steps he pleases with the view of defeating Mr. Williams at the next election, but we do not think he will promote his object by accusing the honourable Member of being prompted solely by individual gain, and making other serious charges, without he can adduce very satisfactory proof of their correctness.

"E. T." (Liverpool).—Several lodes of copper have been discovered in New Brunswick, in most cases they crop out to surface. Some of the specimens we have seen from there were in granite and greenstone; the country apparently hard, and the lodes strong.

BRASS WIRE AND SHEETS.—Sir: In your Journal of June 28, your quotation for brass wire and sheets is too low—at least, I cannot hear of any maker having quoted 9½d. The quotation you give is usually a trifle above the lowest margin, and, consequently, as nearly as possible the average price. The lowest possible margin being now 10d. for "wire," the quotation should be 10½d., that being the price which would be demanded for an average quality. Again, "sheets" (24 x 48) should be quoted 10½d. to 11½d., which would be correct; for although narrow stuff (say, 10 or 11 in.) may have, and I believe has, been sold as low as you quote, your prices cannot be considered those of "sheet brass," as that term is used by manufacturers. A MANUFACTURER, Birmingham, July 2.

DALGARVA MINING COMPANY.—The proceedings connected with this company are, we understand, not entirely concluded. According to all recent accounts from Sweden, it would appear that there are highly encouraging prospects, and foreign enterprise will reap that which English misadventure has neglected.

ANGLO-CALIFORNIA GOLD MINING COMPANY.—Sir: Another remittance of gold has arrived, of the value of nearly 4000l. This at first would appear encouraging; but I should wish the directors would inform us at what cost this has been obtained, how many people are employed, and what per centage is paid to the resident director, who after five years' labour, intermingled with a multiplicity of excuses, at last comes forward with such miserable results! Truly his performances will not bear comparison with his promises. —T. S., Birmingham, July 4.

THE GREAT WILDERBERG MINING COMPANY.—It must be evident that we cannot be answerable for the prices at which advertisers choose to put the shares; at the same time, upon making enquiry, we find that shares advertised at a certain price could not be obtained. Indeed, we believe that the shares in this company are very firmly held by a highly respectable proprietor.

INDUSTRY OF THE GOLD FIELDS OF THE COLONY OF VICTORIA.—Sir: It is stated that the object proposed is much better adapted for private than for a public company, and that it is hopeless to expect any good from the London gold companies in Australia. This may be true; I merely suggested what might be carried on at present in Victoria with profit by a company conducted on the ordinary legitimate principles. The manager of a company, be it private or public, should have the capacity and the discretionary power to act at all times to the best of his abilities for the interest of those concerned, and receive the credit, as well as the discredit, of what may result from his proceedings. To ensure success, the company must work in harmony with the diggers—supply them with the best description of machinery for washing, crushing, and extracting—establish two or three small assaying offices, with a few machines for experimental purposes—and reduce the auriferous tin ore of the Ovens on the spot. This could be made a steady and permanent kind of business, without the risk of heavy losses or disturbance amongst the diggers, and would be of great benefit to the colony. —EVAN HOPKINS, June 30.

GREAT WHEAL VOR UNITED.—We have not heard that shares have changed hands at the price named by our correspondent. The lowest quotation at which we are informed business has been done was 1 discount, and the variation from 1 to ½ dis.

ASTURIAN MINING COMPANY.—Sir: Can any of your correspondents inform me when the next meeting of this company is to be held in Paris? I have been several times to the office, but can obtain no information from the clerk; he apparently does not understand English, but invariably answers in a sort of *lingua franca*. May not this be done advisedly, in order that he may not (owing to his want of knowledge of our language) be able to afford any explanations which may be required of him, with regard to the robberies committed on the works of the company. —R., Easton-square, July 3.

INVESTING CONSOLS.—"An Old Subscriber."—It is stated that the operations at this mine are progressing steadily, and that in a short time means will be adopted for raising additional capital, to more vigorously develop the property.

THE PORT PHILLIP GOLD COMPANY.—Sir: The inference drawn from the directors' report, in February last, was that the future prospects of this company depended on Mr. G. M. Stephen, with whom they had made arrangements to carry on their operations in the colony. This gentleman has arrived in Melbourne, but Mr. Bland, the resident director, in his letter to the *Argus* of March 14, repudiates the appointment of Mr. Stephen. He flatly denies that Mr. Stephen has any appointment under the company, and asserts that he (Mr. Bland) is the sole representative of the company, and that nothing can be done without his approval. It appears that Mr. Bland is playing "the dog in the manger"—he will neither do anything himself, nor allow anybody else to try what he can do. What are the directors and shareholders about? —AN INQUIRER, July 1.

"G. H. W." (Liverpool) should purchase our *Glossary of English and Foreign Mining and Smelting Terms* (2s.), which contains the information he requires.

GREAT CAMBRIAN MINING AND QUARRYING COMPANY, AND THE JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES WINDING-UP ACT.—Sir: How long has the credit of the company of their long-expected success been hanging in the air? Since the machinery and lease were sold for 1015l.; the cash was paid to Mr. Harding, the managing director. Then why not, as under a bankruptcy, pay a dividend? The greater part of the debt are due to miners, who cannot afford to wait; therefore, I hope, Mr. Editor, you will call attention to this matter through your valuable Journal. —O. P. Q., July 3.

THE PORT BOWEN MINES.—Sir: As there appears a difference of opinion as to the description of boiler to be used on these mines, I shall feel obliged by some of your scientific correspondents informing me, through your Journal, whether a locomotive tubular boiler is the best calculated to economise heat where the fuel they are compelled to use is non-bituminous wood. —ONE LARGELY INTERESTED, July 3.

COLLIERY INSPECTORS.—"A Welshman" has forwarded almost sufficient personal particulars of the South Wales Inspector to form a "biography," but most of our readers would think we attached too much importance to that gentleman's early history were we to devote space to such a record. We may, however, state that Mr. Evans is about 27 years of age; on the completion of his education, at 20, he was placed as a learner at the Dowlais Works, where he applied himself diligently to the working of blast-furnaces, &c.; he next entered the office, where he made up the furnace accounts; was then installed in the colliery department, as assistant colliery agent; then employed for about two years at the Westbury Brook (Ironstone) Mine, in the Forest of Dean; when he diligently employed himself in preparing for his present appointment. Mr. Evans was never resident viewer of the Dowlais Colliery while Mr. N. Wood was in connection with the company; the colliery has been, since 1851, under the superintendence of Mr. Wales, who was recommended by Mr. Wood. The Welsh coal proprietors are perfectly satisfied with their inspector, who is daily becoming more popular, both with masters and men.

CWMLYD ROCK COMPANY.—We have heard that it is the intention of the managing committee to wind-up this adventure, and if it be done in a friendly spirit a large amount of law expenses will be saved. The shareholders should remember that, if they go to the Court of Chancery, they will all be made contributories, and thus increase the loss already incurred.

MEXICAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN COMPANY.—Sir: By the last West India Mail, the accounts from this company's works are not of a satisfactory character. Mr. Hyde Clarke, the secretary, very kindly intimates that "any shareholder who may desire information on the state of the company's affairs will always obtain it on calling at the office." Will the secretary show the copies of the correspondence between Mr. Alison and the London managers, which led to the resignation of that gentleman? Are the directors aware that Mr. Alison, who was obliged to leave the company in disgust, is now forming a large establishment, and is supported by powerful capitalists, and that there is every probability of this company's interests being seriously damaged thereby? It is said that the directors have sent out a lawyer to manage (query, damage?) their works, and that the furnaces are getting dilapidated, and some of the best men leaving, to serve those who appreciate their value. The Chilianas are exclaiming, "Que bonos estos directores de la compania?" Are the directors of this company the same as those of the Port Phillip Gold Company, who have caused such a hubbub in Melbourne, by their sending out likewise a lawyer to manage, to supersede Mr. Bland? I have much respect for Mr. Clarke, and shall believe his statement. I do not think that he will be prevailed upon by anybody to make a false accusation, which may lead to criminal proceedings. —VINDIC, July 1.

ROYAL SANCTI MINING COMPANY.—"An Old Subscriber" (Clanton).—The next annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday next at the office; and if our correspondent attends he will obtain every information. The shares which were forfeited for non-payment of calls realised from 4l. to 4l. 3s. each. They were purchased principally by members of the Stock Exchange.

"W. C." (Camden-town).—The depreciation in the price of copper will, in that particular instance, prevent the payment of dividends. The shares have not been at such high rates for many years, and are now much depreciated in value. It is questionable whether they will ever rally; this, however, is but an opinion, based upon the results of the past ten years. The mine will, we believe, pay its cost; but nothing will be left available as a dividend for the shareholders.

ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY.—Sir: After a considerable period, the Anglo-Californian Gold Mining Company at last have made returns. During the whole of the period they have dragged on their existence, from time to time the fertile imagination of Sir Henry Hunter has invented all manner of excuses, in order to amuse the shareholders; but in this company, with the exception of knowing that Capt. Bell was dispatched to the colony in February, 1853, as superintendent, and Mr. Falder as resident director, in October, 1855, no further information has been received. Is it the intention of the directors to wind-up the company, or do they intend to hold office as long as they have any money in their coffers? According to the List, it is a considerable period since any business was transacted in these shares. The capital subscribed by the shareholders in all gold mines appears to me to have been only beneficial to the superintendent and the various makers and patentees of the abortive gold machines, who so largely profited by the gullibility of the British public. —A SHAREHOLDER, Warwick, July 3. [Our correspondent should apply to Mr. Parker, the secretary, at the office, Essex-street, Strand, and probably there he would receive the information he requires. —Ed. M. J.]

RATING OF MINES TO THE POOR.—Sir: Is there any truth in the statement which has gone abroad, to the effect that a certain monopolist, who is strenuously exerting himself to saddle mines with the poor-rates, has lately been the purchaser of surface land, at a cost of 250,000l., without the mineral rights? If so, herein lies the answer. Men are prone to look after themselves. —"What a pity 'tis 'tis true!" TRIBUNE, Cambridge, July 1.

GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS.—We think the reply of "Justice" to "Candidate" had better not appear: the correspondence has already assumed a too personal character, and we cannot further allow the publication of communications on such a subject, which, written under misapprehension or excitement, might form a matter of regret to both parties hereafter.

THE LEAD TRADE.—Sir: Having noticed the just remarks on the copper smelters' actions in your last Journal, allow me to ask what may be thought of the lead smelters? Can the trade or the miners reconcile the abominable position they are now placed in?—many pounds reduction in ore, and the price of lead upheld! It is a fact that, in many instances, the offers for ore have been no more than was obtainable when lead was only 177 per ton. —A MINE SHAREHOLDER, July 2.

CAMBERIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY.—Sir: The promoters of this undertaking, which was to have settled the question as to the commercial value of gold in England, do not seem quite so ready to give information as to its present progress as they were some months since, when the machinery was in course of construction, which was to have produced another and a more permanent "fever" in Capel-court and its vicinity. This is much to be regretted, because there can be but little doubt that gold exists in the mines, as is abundantly proved by the auriferous veins opened out; but if, as I hear, the Brazilian process has failed totally and unmistakably, why not try some other? Surely, they are not pledged to a specific system; and as it is certain gold exists, it is mere child's play to continue in a course which must ultimately end in ruin. —C. K., City, July 3.

BLEN MINE (TRANSLATION).—Sir: I understood that it was the intention of Dr. Collyer to work this mine, which, from my own knowledge of the district, I believe to be worthy of the fullest development. It is far more advantageously situated than the Fort Bowen Company's property, and even that, with good management and the strictest economy, would no doubt prove remunerative. I should be glad to hear what progress he is making with his mine, and should, at the same time, like one of his agents to state whether the machinery at the Fort Bowen Mines is taken more care of than it was formerly. I think there are many capitalists here who are sufficiently confident that success would result to render him assistance, if such be needed. —H. D., Perth, July 1.

"Reader" (Redruth).—We are at all times thankful for the communication of local news, and shall be glad to receive the proposed contributions.

WHEAL EDWARD, AND ITS MANAGEMENT.—We have so many times stated that it is not our intention to allow the columns of the *Mining Journal* to be the medium of personal recrimination, that our correspondents who address us upon the management of this mine must, upon reconsideration, admit that their communications are not admissible. There may or may not be the errors complained of; but if a number of shareholders please more confidence in the reports and opinions of their resident agent than in the statements of those who authenticate the reports, the most advisable course is to bring agents and shareholders face to face, and from the particulars adduced no doubt the truth may be arrived at, and justice done to all parties.

WHEAL JAMAICA—"F. R." (Holloway).—This company has hitherto been worked solely by capitalists residing in Jamaica; but as it is now considered that the mine has been thoroughly proved, and only requires additional capital, it is intended to send the necessary authority to this country, to enable Mr. Douglas, the London agent, with the assistance of Messrs. Wilson, Peck, and Co., of Liverpool, to form a board of directors here, and several parties interested in the welfare of the island have already expressed themselves willing to assist the adventure. The accounts received by every mail would certainly seem to give the complexion of mining being conducted remuneratively in Jamaica.

•• With last week's *MINING JOURNAL* we gave a SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, containing—Well Sinking and Earth Boring Apparatus, by Mr. D. Chadwick; Professor Ansted on Remarkable Mineral Veins—No. 2; Spanish Mining Affairs—No. 2; Iron-Making and Coal Mining in America; Artificial Stone; Iron Mines in Devonshire; the Torbane Hill Mineral; and Meetings of the Agua Fria, Fort Bowen, West Pulberru, Wheal Guskus, and Irish Peat Companies, &c., &c.

THE MINING JOURNAL

Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, JULY 5, 1856.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, the order for the second reading of the "Rating of Mines Bill, 1856," was discharged, and the Mining Interest has so far succeeded in staying the progress of a measure of invidious legislation, which, had it become law, would unquestionably have given a check to this important, but too often uncertain, branch of British industry. We opine that the strenuous exertions which have been made, both in the West of England, the mining districts of the North, and in London, have not been without their effect in bringing about so desirable a consummation. But it must not be imagined the object of the promoters of the bill is defeated. They merely retire from the contest for a time, that the obnoxious measure may again re-appear in the ensuing session in another form; and it, therefore, behoves all immediately interested in the successful progress of metallic and other mines to look with a jealous eye on the proceedings of these mine taxers, and to work with redoubled vigilance to place before the Select Committee of the House such a body of information as will place the ultimate defeat of any bill that may be contemplated by the select few beyond the possibility of a doubt. We understand the London Committee, appointed to watch the proceedings of the House, with Mr. JOHN TAYLOR at its head, are busily engaged in preparing very valuable evidence; and we have no doubt that the Truro Committee are equally energetic in their exertions; and we hesitate not to say that the results of their joint labours will be such as not only to defeat the measure, but to set the question of rating mines at rest, at least for some years to come.

If we may judge of the evidence yet to be produced, ere the sittings of the select committee are brought to a close, by that which has already been given, our anticipations cannot fail of certain realisation. So far as the bulk of it goes, it is most decidedly against any legislative interference with mines for tin, copper, lead, and other metals, from the uncertainty attending the search for them, and the disadvantageous position in which they will be placed by any increased burden on their energies in competing with foreign countries, whose Governments have of late years, in this respect, adopted a policy directly at variance with that which personal interest, or abstract justice, would oppose to national policy and public good in this country.

We have it on record, supported by the most indisputable facts adducible, that any increased burden on mines would be attended with great danger, and would, in all probability, by throwing the miner out of employ, increase the responsibilities of those who now pay the poor-rates, and who are enabled to do so by the great influx of workpeople the active prosecution of mining operations has brought into the various districts where they are carried on. This is not only true in reference to localities in which mines are profitable, but is equally applicable to those where enormous sums are expended in its unsuccessful prosecution. Mr. DARRK, in his examination, after citing Illogan as the model rate-paying mining district, against that of Gwennap, which had ceased to contribute, triumphantly asks, What would be the effect on the 10,670l. rateable property in the former, if the dues received, 13,213l., were exempt, and the burden thrown upon the rateable property? Why, says Mr. DARRK, Illogan would be like Gwennap, and instead of, as at present, only having to pay 1s. 8d. in 1l., it would be saddled with a rate of 6s. It is quite possible, in the ordinary course of events, the evasion by Illogan of the poor charges would slightly increase the responsibility of other rateable property; but will Mr. DARRK tell us what would be the effect on the rates were all the mines in Gwennap and Illogan to suspend operations? If the alternative were offered the agriculturist, merchant, trader, and small occupier, whether they would continue to pay the rates, lower in this county than the average of England and Wales, or close the mines, who can for an instant doubt the answer? We are told by Mr. SMYTH, of the Duchy of Cornwall, that he believed the rated occupiers would sooner continue to bear the whole tax than the mines in their district should suspend operations, and he instanced as an illustration Pembroke and East Crinnis, where the adventurers in five years had absolutely spent 108,000l., the greater portion doubtless in its vicinity, without receiving a single farthing in return. With hopes thus disappointed, they had serious thoughts of abandoning the undertaking, which caused the greatest consternation in the neighbourhood.

Again, the present adventurers in the Holmbush Mine had laid out some 25,000l., and to induce them to persevere the Duchy had reduced the dues to 1-60th, and still they were working at a loss of 600l. per month. A few more instances of unprofitable working will still more forcibly show who gain the most by speculative mining. West Povey Consols, in 24 years' working, has lost 95,000l.; Boscudde, in 8 years, 40,000l.; Pridaux Wood, 11 years, 21,000l.; St. Blazey Consols, 16,000l. in 7 years; West Par Consols, 5 years, 15,000l.; Great Crinnis, 5 years, 10,000l.; West Crinnis, 4 years, 6000l.; South Cuddra, 1 year, 1000l. To these may be added Povey Consols, 328,000l., and Tryardreth Mine, 14,000l.; giving a total of 672,500l. expended at a loss, in one district of the county alone, and most of these mines are being worked for the second time; and were they no longer the busy hives of industry, who will say what would be

the scenes of desolation which would succeed comparative ease, comfort, and prosperity, giving status to the lord, wealth to the merchant, plenty to the trader, and independence to the working miner?

It is true this is not altogether the most cheerful picture which might be drawn of mines and miners; but at a time like the present, when ill-adviced councils prevail in certain quarters, facts must teach their true significance, and be weighed in the balance against violent legal constructions and the theoretical crochets of embryo political economists.

If we were to believe all the reports we hear, the production of our copper mines, it would seem, could not any longer bear the competition with which they are threatened. At one time we hear that the large supplies of native copper from Lake Superior must swamp the market; then we are told there are immense discoveries in New Brunswick, and that a company in Mexico, with unlimited resources, and capable of raising ores in fabulous quantities, are likely shortly to produce metallic copper in such great quantities that they will be enabled to dispose of it at the rate of at least one-half of the present prices.

Experience has shown us that these accounts are and always have been greatly exaggerated, and therefore to be but little regarded. Whatever may be the supply, this may be considered as a fact, that it will never exceed the demand.

In Germany we are informed that a process by the humid way has been discovered, by which ores of ½ per cent. may be reduced with a profit; this, it is stated, is not the result of any assay, but has been practically tested by competent authorities. It has long been a great and just cause of complaint that British miners and smelters have not more extensively availed themselves of the chemical improvements which have been introduced in mining and smelting by our continental neighbours; in those countries, with but few exceptions, each establishment has its own reduction works, and is thereby enabled to dispose of its produce to the best advantage. Here, however, it is quite different, the smelter is the purchaser of the ore from the miner at his own standard; he reduces it to cake, ingot, or tile copper, as the case may be, and then disposes of it to the manufacturer, who subsequently applies it to purposes of use or ornament. There can be no disguising the fact that in this instance the smelter is the "middle man," and by his position, like all of the same class, has in his power both producer and consumer. For a long period the governing system has been free trade, yet by a strange anomaly we find that in one of the greatest branches of our industry a monopoly still exists, and that of the grossest kind. If this occurred in any of the necessities of life the indignant voice of the public would cry out, and it would not be allowed to exist a day longer.

Let us look at the case dispassionately: here are some seven firms who regulate the price of copper, exalting or depressing it at pleasure, without giving any assigned reason for so doing. It is true, they are enabled to do so, owing to combination and capital, but they should remember that while their vast amount of wealth should receive its rights, yet that it has its duties. The fall in the price of copper, though it has affected in a slight degree several of the smaller mines, we are of opinion will not check in any measure legitimate enterprise. The general feeling among several of the larger holders is that materials as well as labour must be cheaper, and, therefore, the greater mines will not suffer. It is, however, far different with several of those foreign undertakings who have consignments on their way to England; many of these, owing to the ill-adviced measures of the smelters, will not be able to pay the dividend which their shareholders anticipated, and hence a large amount of distrust must be engendered, while few will endeavour to fathom the reason why such should have occurred. For years past we have exposed the system; we have shown that when all was disunion among the miners, the smelters were united, and hence the secret of their uniform success. Capital to a great extent must always use a great, and in many instances an undue, influence; but this should not be controlled by caprice: a gradual reduction all parties were prepared for, but one so sweeping and sudden as that of 2d. in 1l. was never anticipated.

We do not pretend to offer or suggest any remedy for the present evils. As our miners receive a more liberal education, they will in course of time be enabled to rid themselves of the present incubus, which weighs so heavily on their industry. As we have stated on a former occasion, we do not imagine that the late detrimental proceedings will cause any material injury to British mining enterprise; though we cannot conceal from ourselves the fact, that in some of the lesser mines a temporary embarrassment may ensue. Smelting works have been carried on successfully in foreign countries: in a few years the Swansea monopolists will lose the supplies of rich ore they obtain from South America, and probably be dependent on our home mines. Let them receive their fair share of profit for reducing the ore, interest of capital, &c.; the miners, however, should be treated fairly, and the produce of the one not be raised or lowered to swell the plethora gains of the other.

The JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES ACT, 1856, has passed the House of Lords, and now only awaits the Royal Assent, to become law. It is true the amount of opposition with which it has met is unwarrantable, considering the probable results that will accrue; but it is doubtful whether that opposition has not caused a more careful consideration of the subject than it would have received had there been no difficulties to contend with. The bill, as it at present stands, appears to be all that could be desired; affording the utmost facility to the shareholder for ascertaining the position of the company's affairs, and to the creditor for the securing himself against loss, whilst the clauses relating to the government of the company are as stringent upon those in power, that fraud on their part, to any extent, is almost impossible, unless from extraordinary neglect on the part of the shareholders. The amendments introduced in the House of Lords are not numerous, and appear rather to increase the power of the bill than otherwise, and at the same time to give the shareholders more control over their own affairs. The verbal amendments which do not alter the effect of the clauses in which they occur we shall pass over, and confine ourselves to allusions to those insertions and omissions of a more serious character. A very important clause has been inserted for providing against the payment of dividends whilst the company is known to be insolvent. It enacts, that "if the directors of any such company shall declare and pay any dividend when the company is known by them to be insolvent, or any dividend the payment of which would, to their knowledge, render it insolvent, they shall be jointly and severally liable for all the debts of the company then existing, and for all that shall be hereafter contracted, so long as they shall respectively continue in office: provided always that the amount for which they shall be so liable shall not exceed the amount of such dividend; and that if any of the directors shall be absent at the time of making the dividend or dividends, so declared or paid, or shall object thereto, and shall file their objection in writing with the clerk of the company, they shall be exempted from the said liability." Thus, whilst a penalty will be inflicted on the directors for fraudulently declaring a dividend, there is no ground of excuse for any individual, from the provisions being such that the majority are prevented from overpowering the minority in the direction; each director is rendered responsible for his own acts, and for those only.

In the bill, as sent from the Commons, it was provided that the register of shareholders should be kept at the registered office of the company, which clause has been amended and now stands, the register of shareholders commencing from the incorporation of the company shall be kept at the registered offices of the company. The remaining portion of the clause continues the same, and although the alteration is but slight, there can be no doubt that it will effectually prevent evasions which might possibly have been resorted to. Again, in the Commons bill, although it was permitted to the shareholders to make new provisions in lieu of any regulations of the company, including the table B in the schedule of the Act, it was competent on the part of the promoters to considerably restrain the power of the shareholders by the wording of the Articles of Association, which could be made invariable—thus in the model of the Articles of Association of a company for working a patent process, the third article provides, that "no alteration shall be made in any of the regulations contained herein;" but, in clause 33 of the amended bill, it is specially stated that new provisions may be made in any regulations of the company contained in the Articles of Association, or in table B in the schedule. It leaves the "Memorandum of Association" only invariable, and as that contains nothing relating to the government of the company, the shareholders may be said to have the entire power of forming laws for themselves.

In the clause relating to the legal instruments of the company, more force is given by the addition of the words, "And all contracts made according to the provisions herein contained shall be effectual in law, and binding upon the company and their successors, and to all other parties thereto, their heirs, executors, or administrators, as the case may be."

With respect to the examination into the affairs of the company, the inspector is authorised to administer the necessary oath for examining the officers and agents of the company in relation to its business. The clause which states the course to be pursued by the court on petition of a contributory for winding-up has been verbally amended, and rendered much more concise, but the effect remains the same. In cases within the jurisdiction of any Court of Bankruptcy, the official assignee to be named by the court is to be the official liquidator; but it will be lawful, in cases where the winding-up takes place at the suit of the creditor or contributory, for the major part in value of the creditors or contributories respectively, assembled at a meeting to be held for the purpose, to appoint an official liquidator to act concurrently with the official liquidator so named by the court. Instead of the court alone having the power of appointing a solicitor and such clerks or officers as may be necessary to assist the official liquidators in the performance of their duties, the official liquidators may, with the approval of the court, appoint themselves.

After the clause authorising the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries to make rules, an additional clause is inserted, which provides that it shall be competent for the Vice-Warden in any suit instituted against any shareholder or contributory of a company registered under the Act, to authorise the service of process on such shareholder or contributory in any part of England or Wales; provided that it shall be lawful for the Lord Warden to send at once any cause or matter pending before him, on appeal against any decree or order of the court, made in pursuance of the power conferred upon it by this Act, for the winding-up of such a company, to the Court of Appeal in Chancery, which shall thereupon have power to hear and determine such appeal, and make such orders therein as may seem fit. In the 43d section of "Table B," it was provided that no person should be appointed a proxy who is not a shareholder, and that the instrument or mandate appointing him should be deposited at the registered office of the company not less than 48 hours before the time of holding the meeting at which he proposed to vote. To this has been added a few words of the utmost importance—"but no instrument or mandate appointing a proxy shall be valid after the expiration of one month from the date of its execution"—as by them the complaints frequently heard at meetings, that the proxies used were not intended for the meeting at which they are acted upon, will be, in a great measure, prevented.

We have now alluded to the whole of the material amendments in the Bill, and it will be seen that our assertion that the bill is not lessened in excellence is correct. The only amendment which is likely to be at all disliked by the public is that which allows the repeal and alteration of the Articles of Association; yet, although an inventor may consider that he was fully entitled to the protection given him by the clause as it originally stood, it was open to many objections; whilst it would appear that any claim he might have upon the company could be amply secured to him by a deed annexed to the Memorandum of Association.

With the view of enabling our readers to appreciate the important undertaking submitted to the public by the SOCIÉTÉ PARISIENNE, we have attentively examined the various details of business intended by that company. We shall now present a brief statement of the position of affairs, and the result of our investigation.

Every one acquainted with the coal trade knows that in the time of Louis PHILIPPE English coals were excluded from general consumption in the interior of France, by heavy and almost prohibitive duties; and that, on the other hand, acting up to his well-known family policy, that monarch favoured the introduction of Belgian coals into France. The Belgian coal fields are extensive, and there is no doubt that, in the district of Mons, there is to be found a tolerably good quality of coal; but it is rather the exception, whilst in the Durham and Northumberland mining districts the coal of superior quality exists as the general rule, containing little sulphur, pyrites, or shale, and excellent for every industrial purpose all other kinds. At the same time, the thickness of the seams, the abundance of labour, and the advantages of mechanical appliances and financial resources in England, give facilities to our northern coalowners which the Belgian and French do not enjoy. We may observe, also, that in Belgium the quantity of coal available is so limited that the Government engineers calculate it will be exhausted in 20 years. King LEOPOLD, with his usual shrewdness, has taken the hint, and admitted foreign coals into Belgium free of duty. The condition of the French coal fields does not present the possibility of any serious competition in that quarter, and we, therefore, omit further observation regarding their capabilities.

When the Orleans dynasty was upset, the Belgian coal trade had begun to assume considerable importance, on account of the increasing consumption for steam navigation, gas, and railway purposes, as well as by reason of the establishment of numerous manufacturing along the course of the Seine—the application of coal as household fuel, which has recently attained to a large development, being at that time merely a remote possibility. The revolution of 1848 alarmed the Belgian mine owners so much that they sold their produce at any price—indeed, below the cost to them; in fact, the stagnation of trade, which cut off the most important sources of demand, was the substantive motive of the reduction. This may be considered as the lowest ebb of the trade, for ever since the year 1849 it has gained upon the consumers, augmenting both in extent and price, till it has at length reached the culminating point. The cost of a ton of coal at that time, sold to the consumer at the importers' depot, without carriage, and exclusive of octroi, or town dues, was, for unscreened coals, about 22 fr.; and for the large, 30 fr.; it is now 52 fr. for the best Mons.

This fact does not represent the actual state of the market. The custom in France has hitherto been, on the part of the great consumers, to obtain contracts from the importers for a long term of years, to secure their required supply, and it is manifest that a contract of the kind, made four or five years since, must be now greatly to the disadvantage of the contractor; consequently, we still find prices subsisting at 25 fr., 26 fr., and 27 fr. Moreover, the quality is so various that there has been a kind of competition between the mine owners to force their sales of the lowest kind of fuel, and we meet with offers of unscreened, or, as it is termed, *souterrain*, at prices varying from 30 fr. to 35 fr.; but the real value of average coals of this class is about 42 fr., which, taking the exchange at 25 fr. 25 cents, will be 33s. 6d. nearly. This is a price which, if permanent, would permit our English coals to come into competition with the Belgian coals in the Paris market, even with the existing means of conveyance. We accordingly observe that a quantity of our coals finds at the present day a ready market in Paris, with a preference in regard to quality, at the same rates as paid for the Belgian coals. But the precariousness of freights by sailing ships, the necessity of transhipment to forward the coal by long lines of railway for delivery in the French metropolis, and the possibility of a reduction of price on the part of the Belgian coalowners, will suggest that any operation of this nature must be unsafe.

To meet this difficulty, the projectors of the Société Parisienne contemplated the establishment of a line of screw colliers to ascend the Seine to Paris, and there deliver the coals, returning with general cargo, which neither the Belgian importers, nor any line for the supply of English coal adopting railway transit, could make available with the same economy. The present rate of freight on London is on the average 75 fr. We do not speak of railway conveyance, by fast trains, which may be stated as nearly double that amount. Again, the price of goods by rail from Paris to the northern ports of Europe, from Rotterdam to Stockholm and St. Petersburg, vary from 90 to 300 fr., subject to all the delays and other inconveniences of custom in the various states through which the merchandise passes. Now, if the cost of transit to our ports from which merchandise is dispatched to the various maritime points of correspondence with France can be reduced to 10, 15, or even 20 fr., no one with the experience we now enjoy in this country can refuse to admit that a vast development of business will be the consequence of the low rates of conveyance for the whole distance.

We take, for example, the Harwich traffic. The Société Parisienne conveys a cargo to Harwich, where it arrives exempt from port dues; it is then taken up by the Eastern Counties Railway, rendered wise by the serious lessons it has been taught, and to which this measure will be a real boon: the traffic will thence be conveyed at low rates and with prompt dispatch to the several destinations in London and other parts of England. The cargo to be expected will be principally as follows:—Market produce of every kind from Normandy, plaster of Paris (which is nearly a pure sulphate of lime), Roman cement, stucco, millstones, hats, boots and shoes, cabinet work, ornaments, ornamental articles, china, glass, millinery, silks, laces, muslins, gloves, Champagne, Burgundy, Rhone and even Bordeaux wines (brought to Paris by rail), brandies, dried fruits, and a multitude of other things, and probably goods in transit from Switzerland to no insignificant extent. The whole cost of carriage from Paris to London need not exceed, for the lowest class of goods, 15s., nor for the highest 25s. At such rates all the above descriptions will not only exclusively fall into

this channel of communication in their present proportions of trade, but it is indisputable that such facilities of importation will increase the demand, and conduce to the prosperity of the working classes of Paris and other localities concerned. We shall have thus a further guarantee for the peace and internal security of France, because much of the existing poverty, the never-failing incentive of political disorders, will be considerably diminished at the head and source of revolution.

We come now to the gist of this great feature of the case before us. If the company can get full cargoes on the return passage (which from the statistics before us we doubt not), and if they receive only 10s. a ton, it will pay the cost of the whole voyage, including interest, sinking fund, repairs, and assurance. In that event, the company could afford to meet competition at so low a price as 12s. to 14s. for the lowest class of coals, and 20s. for the best. This necessarily precludes the idea of any successful attempt on the part of the Belgians to mar the success of this new element of supply, the importance of which to the industrial interests of France is obvious, inasmuch as, for them—COAL IS POWER.

We find that our northern coalowners, like cautious and shrewd men of business as they have ever shown themselves, before they committed themselves to an unqualified support of the project, caused the matter to undergo the minute scrutiny of some of their most competent men, such as Mr. NICHOLAS WOOD and Mr. JOHN THOMAS TAYLOR; the latter of these gentlemen prepared their report, which we have before us, a clear and elaborate *exposé* of the case; and at the meeting of the coal trade, when the general resolution to patronise the affair was adopted, there was a very long and accurate investigation of every circumstance. We cannot, therefore, decline to adopt the conclusions of the coalowners, and we must recommend the undertaking to the consideration of all concerned; to the London community, as interested in the extension of the means of supplying cheap provisions, and the luxuries of life; to those interested in every English port whence French goods are exported; and to all who desire to invest in practical and *bona fide* enterprises.

The SOCIÉTÉ PARISIENNE appears to have secured the cordial co-operation and support of the Eastern Counties Railway Company, of which, indeed, the proprietors are vitally concerned to encourage the plan proposed. Messrs. DEHAYNIN, the greatest coal merchants of France, have deemed it their interest to adopt unqualifiedly this company, for we have seen their contract with it; and we are informed that there are in progress negotiations for other important adhesions, which will render this affair one of the most influential of the day.

We have not space to notice as it deserves the tendency of the measure to realise the views of NAPOLEON I., and of the present unlightened ruler of France, to make Paris a sea port. We shall return to that topic in our next, and give a summary of the able report of Mr. TAYLOR.

The FORT BOWEN MINING COMPANY held their annual meeting last week, and although the proceedings might be deemed a little stormy, they were, upon the whole, satisfactory. The principal matter in dispute appeared to be whether the mine should be worked by water or steam power; and this question was fairly put before the meeting by the directors, when it was carried that it would be for the interest of the company to continue the steam power. No party will doubt for a moment that if water power could be obtained it would be preferable, but it must also be considered that the proposition was to bring it to the works, a distance of three miles, by leats, and that in a part of the world where at certain seasons of the year the rain descends in such overwhelming torrents that it is extremely doubtful whether the labour of months might not be carried away in a few days. However, the shareholders have determined not to supply the necessary funds for obtaining the water power; and perhaps it may not be too much to state, that those who have resided in that country will consider they have acted wisely in so doing.

The next point brought before the meeting was the nature of the steam power they were using, and the construction of the boilers. Now, although one of the directors observed, that whilst "In the multitude of counsellors there was wisdom," there might be also confusion, there were certainly some hints given that are worthy of the consideration of the board. There are difficulties to contend with at the mines, as to the construction of the boiler, that require peculiar attention: the only fuel they can obtain is wood, and that of a non-bituminous nature; and it is quite evident that they have hitherto been losing a large proportion of the heat; this is a fact that, no doubt, the directors will concede is correct. Dr. COLLYER recommended a locomotive tubular boiler, as the one best adapted for economising the description of fuel they were compelled to use, and enable them to obtain more steam power than by any other plan. But the directors need not take the opinion of Dr. COLLYER; the question is so simple that there are plenty of able engineers in this country who would at once solve it; and after the many errors that have been committed, and the enormous amount unprofitably spent, the shareholders may feel satisfied that the best advice will be obtained.

With regard to the value of the mine, it is only necessary to refer to some communications in another column; and, without commenting on them, we will leave the proprietors to judge for themselves as to the probable chances of success; while we hope at some future day to be enabled to congratulate them on the result of their patience and perseverance.

A very valuable report has just been prepared by Lieut-Col. KENNEDY, for the BOMBAY, BARODA, AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY COMPANY, and which, as containing a large amount of useful information, requires more than a passing comment; we shall, therefore, give a brief abstract of its contents. The British empire of India offers, perhaps, the most profitable and beneficent field for investment in the world. It possesses a vast and docile population, and copious natural sources of production, yet are its people comparatively poor, its produce scanty, minerals neglected, rich soil untillaged, manufactures limited, trade and commerce stagnant, and its invigorating influence on the power and wealth impeded, from the indispensable preliminary to extensive production being still deficient.

Amongst the more interesting results of a rapid survey, has been that of ascertaining the existence, in favourable positions, of copious iron and coal mines. A local supply of such materials would largely increase the facilities and diminish the cost of working Indian railways. Had England neglected her own iron and coal mines, she could not have reached her present high position; whilst, had she promoted the development of the rich minerals in India, her position would have been even higher than it is, and her millions of Indian subjects would have had additional grounds for gratitude and contentment under her rule. The increased development of Indian industry would probably raise the Indian demand for British produce equivalent to our present exports, giving in exchange those commodities which are most essential to our home manufactures, of which the contingencies of war may at any moment deprive us.

There are five distinct railway companies conveniently disposed for carrying on works in the different districts of India. Those works have reference to a territory many times the extent of England, and peopled with many times her number of inhabitants; our Indian fellow-subjects are in a most indigent condition, although inhabiting a country teeming with inexhaustible sources of undeveloped products required in the English and other markets; there exists, in fact, a practical prohibition upon the needy Indian labourer, capitalist, mechanic, tradesman, and merchant, to contribute to the stores of the land, for the benefit of themselves and the rest of the universe. This state of things must continue until the requisite amount of railways are constructed.

The advent of this desirable result is calculated at about 150 years, under present circumstances. Thus, one-fourth the English acreable mileage of railways would place India in a position enabling her to cultivate her internal produce, with a certain power of bringing it to market—say, 15,000 miles, making 3000 miles per company now existing, and the quickest rate of progress hitherto adopted is about 20 miles per company per year. It is hoped, however, that such a principle will not be allowed to continue, but that the Home Government's controlling agent will be enabled to secure the acceleration of each company's progress to 200 miles a year. The result, as to the practicability of which there can be no doubt, would thus be accomplished in fifteen years; and even depending on England for iron, the home foundries could furnish India with the required materials for 1000 miles of railway annually, and merchant shipping would be forthcoming for their conveyance; but, assuming a thorough development of native Indian iron and coal, the difficulties and cost would be proportionably diminished. The progress of Indian railway companies must, indeed, mainly depend upon the amount of professional capacity, energy, and undivided attention, which the Home Government's controlling agent may bring to the execution of his most important duties.

For the permanent way, the adoption of the suspended girder rail is recommended, it being preferred to any other, from its giving the greatest vertical and horizontal resistance to any weight or force which may be

exerted to derange its position when once laid down, and that the leverage, by which lateral shocks are enabled to exert their force, is the smallest of any that has come under observation; whilst the support at the joints are arranged so as to secure the greatest possible strength and most uniform surface for the wheels at those points. There are also many minor advantages, which can only be understood by seeing it in practice. A powerful class of locomotives have been found, capable of carrying at lower rates per ton per mile, and the sole class to be adopted in the first instance is the six-wheeled goods engine, with four wheels coupled. The peculiarity of the native Indian being in the habit of sitting on the floor instead of seats, offers an opportunity to combine comfort with economy as regards their rate of fares, by providing a fourth-class carriage, with two floors and no raised seats. The height of each floor would be about that of a London omnibus. NEWALL'S system of break is considered the most applicable, and will, therefore, be used. Every other arrangement mentioned in the report shows the immense amount of care that has been bestowed in considering the subject; and it appears the anticipation that the combined exertions of the Indian Railway Companies will accomplish a most rapid, comprehensive, and beneficial change, will be fully realised.

THE COAL TRADE—COLLIERY OPERATIONS ON THE RHINE—RUHRORT COAL MINING COMPANY.—In resuming our observations upon this property, we may state that a series of borings were put down in the district known as the Ruhrort concessions, and at each trial coal was found to exist in the supposed directions indicated by the explorings. The borings were 12 in number, and on examining the sections it will be seen that the coal beds are covered by the tertiary formation, which is known to overlay the greater part of the coal basin of the Ruhr, the depth of which varies in these concessions from 30 to 80 English fathoms before the coal is reached. The near proximity of the Concordia explorations to the Ruhrort concessions, coupled with the facts proved by the borings, places beyond doubt that coal exists over the entire area of surface included by these concessions of 3063 acres. Besides about 25 beds of coal which are known to be associated with those already pierced, there are 30 others, the thickness of which has been ascertained. Proceeding upon the most accurate method of estimating the quantity, it would appear that above the level of 200 fms. from the surface there would be about 49 ft. of available coal, or 15 metres, extending over the entire area of the concessions; and converting this into English tons, and assuming a vend of 200,000 tons per annum, this would give a duration of 250 years, after making ample allowance for waste, or coal which may require to be left in the mines. With regard to the quality, according to the authority of the chief engineers of the Prussian Government superintending the mines of the district of Essen, all the coal found in the borings was of a coking or bituminous nature. As to the cost of working, calculating the expenses at neighbouring colonies, the raising about 100,000 tons of coal per annum averages 3s. 3d. per ton. Assuming, therefore, that 200,000 tons could be easily sold at Ruhrort, according to the present prices, an annual profit of above 40,000l. would be realised. From the reports of Mr. F. L. Behr and Mr. J. B. Plumat, it appears at present incontestable that the coal basin, commonly called the basin of the Ruhr, is one of the richest of continental Europe. At the confluence of the two rivers a town has arisen, which was quite in its infancy in 1830, and which causes surprise at the present time by the prodigious progress it has made since that period. The Netherlands refusing the Belgian coals after the Belgian Revolution, were compelled to have recourse to England at first, and afterwards to the basin of the Ruhr, which thus entered into competition in the commercial world. From this period the coal trade of this district began a successive development, and the consumption has increased more rapidly than the production. Three circumstances, however, deserve especial mention—the numerous steam-boats established on the Rhine; the formation of railways, which traverse Germany from north to south, and from east to west, at the present day; and, lastly, a third cause, not less powerful, has contributed to give a fresh impulse to the trade, and a new demand for the production of coal: we refer to the enormous development which the general industry of the country has taken, but, above all, to the metal factories, and especially to the fabrication of cast and wrought-iron.

THE MINING AND INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS OF CORNWALL.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN WEST CORNWALL.]

JULY 3.—The fall of about 18l. per ton in the price of copper (announced in the *Mining Journal* of Saturday last) came with some surprise upon the mining interest, when it had been so recently stated by the smelters that a fair business was doing in the copper trade. However, the smelters have the prices so entirely in their own power that it is of no service for the miners to complain, unless they combine amongst themselves to remedy the present state of things. If there were any movement amongst them for that purpose, the distaste which all monopolists have for any sort of competition, would probably create a rise in the price of copper as sudden as the present fall. Even at the reduced standard, however, considering that materials have much declined, there is not much to apprehend in the way of any very bad consequences to mining, although it must be admitted that any further reduction in the standard will very severely try some of the deeper mines, and mines which produce chiefly ores of low quality. As capital has become much more abundant in the money market than it has been for some time past, it may reasonably be apprehended that some portion of that increased capital will find its way into mining investments, which it cannot be denied, in many cases, pay a very high per centage; and, as it is believed that the present depreciation in the price of copper is only of a temporary nature, those engaged in mining pursuits may reasonably calculate on a renewal of mining activity within the next half-year.

For the present the market continues dull, although there is some disposition evinced to purchase in promising progressive mines, and various shares have changed hands during the past week. Wheal Buller continues depressed, price about 470l., in consequence of the opinion that this mine has passed its meridian. Basset shares are about 320l., and probably, in consequence of the declension of the standard, most of the heavy shares will somewhat drop. The reports of Alfred Consols are good, and shares are in request. North Basset is discovering some good ore ground. East Basset is looking better than for some time past, but probably not much will be done in this mine until the granite is reached, and when that will be it is impossible to say. Wheal Cupid does not produce much ore at present, but there is a very promising lode in the 25 west. South Tolgus, and Great South Tolgus have attracted purchasers, in consequence of improvements. In South Ellen, shares have sold at 8l. each. The winze in the 20 west is reported worth from 40l. to 60l. per fm.; the end west, on the flat lode, 15l. per fm. North Frances has a very promising lode, and appearances of proving a good mine in depth. Wheal Jane sells very little at present besides muck, but it is thought by many that under the muck something more valuable will be found. Trefusis is in a good position; and after greatly trying the patience of the adventurers, is now looking better. At South Garra account, on Monday, no call was made; there was nearly 60l. to the credit of the mine.

The public meeting at the London Tavern, against the Rating of Mines, appears to have been well attended, and it is gratifying to the Cornish shareholders to find themselves so well supported by their London friends and co-adventurers. As to the evidence before the Select Committee (given last week), the opponents of the rating had evidently the best of it. Mr. Darke's dreamy scheme of stocking the rates when mines were rich in a parish, and investing some portion at interest, in the names of the Poor Law Commissioners, to be drawn upon when the mines became poor or abandoned, and ceased to pay rates, is a sample of the crude and indigestible ideas which seem to have possessed the brains of the advocates for the rating. Mr. Darke knows that there is no precedent in the legislation of the country for any such a practice as that of funding the rates, and how can he think that the House of Commons will now, for the first time, favour such a scheme, in order to please its promoters. The evidence of Mr. John Taylor, jun., is that of a gentleman who knows much better than any lawyer the nature of practical mining. He was of opinion that "any new tax on the energies of mining enterprise would be odious, and do considerable harm;" and when we find his opinion so strongly fortified by the valuable testimony of Captain W. Richards, one of the most experienced miners in Cornwall, and by Mr. Joseph Morcom, of St. Austell, and Mr. Meredith, both gentlemen possessing great information and intelligence in mining pursuits, there can be little doubt of the result on the minds of the committee, whose duty it is to balance fairly the weight of the evidence that is laid before them.

The publication in the *Mining Journal* of June 7, of a comprehensive digest of the provisions of the new Joint Stock Companies Act, was well calculated to afford the mining public of Cornwall a good insight into the

nature of that measure, which has excited a great deal of discussion both in and out of Parliament. I do not apprehend, however, that the Joint-Stock will supersede the Cost-book System in Cornwall. The Cost-book System has worked favourably, and would still be much safer and better if shareholders would make use of it as they ought,—if they would insist on having two-monthly accounts, if they would appoint an auditor to examine the accounts and see that all merchants' bills are duly charged at the right time, and if they would numerously attend the mine meetings, and that not merely to dine, but to look closely into the management of their own property. With due precautions, the Cost-book System is a good one, and especially applicable to mining pursuits. It is, therefore, gratifying to Cornish adventurers in mines to see that the Cost-book System is preserved to them by a special exemption in the new Joint Stock Act, that cost-book companies "within and subject to the Stannaries," are not obliged to register and come under the operation of the new Act. This exemption, it is believed, is due in a great measure to the representations and exertions of the Vice-Warden of the Stannaries, Edward Smirke, Esq., and if so, the mining adventurers of Cornwall cannot but feel thankful for his timely and successful interposition.

I observe that a correspondent of the *Mining Journal* recently made some remarks on the frequency of accidents from premature explosions when miners are preparing for blasting, and he suggested that safety cartridges should be used, instead of charging with loose powder. I have before alluded to the many distressing accidents which occur in this way, and am of opinion that the suggestion of your correspondent (Captain Westlake, of Trevenen Mine, near Helston) is well deserving the attention of all mine agents and adventurers. Very few weeks pass in which the local papers do not contain an account of some accident which has happened in preparing for blasting. At Par Consols, lately, a miner was killed by a hole going off, as he and his comrade were tamping in the charge, and his comrade was at the time so seriously injured that there is little hope of his recovery.

THE IRON AND COAL TRADES OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN WOLVERHAMPTON.]

JULY 3.—The present is a somewhat stand-still week in relation to the trade of the neighbourhood. At many works proprietors are taking stock, and as orders are not very plentiful, there is probably less objection to a temporary diminution of production. Orders continue to come in slowly, and it is thought that some merchants still cling to the possibility of a reduction in price being agreed to at the quarterly meetings to be held next week throughout the district. Cases have occurred in which the decision of the majority at the preliminary meeting has been reversed by an influential minority, acting on their own views, and issuing circulars announcing the reduction for which they had contended. But at the meeting last week the decision was unanimous, and any deviation from it by the trade as a body is not to be expected. Many will—as they have for some time past—sell at lower rates, but the best houses will adhere to the list prices. Some improvement in the home demand continues, and rails are being made to a gradually increasing extent. A general impression prevails that it would be greatly to the interest of railway companies to secure a superior quality of iron for rails by paying a higher price. The great difficulty is that there is a strong anxiety to show a good balance at the next half-yearly meeting, and by unwise sparing of the first cost, a perpetual recurrence of charges for re-laying rails is involved. It may reasonably be anticipated that the improved aspect of the monetary world will produce an increased demand for iron, and that shortly after the quarterly meetings an impetus will be given to the trade.

The proceedings in respect to the bankruptcy of Mr. R. Greene, late banker, of Lichfield, were brought to a close on Thursday, when Mr. Commissioner Balguy pronounced judgment on the application for a certificate. The leading features of the case are worthy of interest. The bankrupt was in partnership originally with Mr. Scott, his father-in-law, who died, when Mr. Palmer, another partner, senior to Mr. Greene, had the almost exclusive management of the bank. Mr. Palmer died in 1850, and Mr. Greene then found on examination that the bank was hopelessly insolvent, the deficiency being to the extent of 70,000*l.*, the total debts being 230,000*l.* A large part of this deficiency arose from a debt owing by Mr. Palmer, which there was not available property to meet. There was also a debt owing by Mr. Greene, which, however, his property was sufficient to discharge, but of which 15,000*l.* remained undischarged up to the period of the bankruptcy. The bankrupt was advised by his London agents to keep on the bank, and when it finally stopped the deficiency was about the same, but the total of liabilities being 50,000*l.* less, the deficiency was greater in proportion to the number of creditors remaining. Mr. Greene had occupied a high position in Lichfield, and indulged a highly cultivated taste. His expenses for the last five or six years were 17,000*l.* He stated that he attempted to reduce his expenditure, but it was noticed, and he was compelled to abandon the idea. The Commissioner mentioned several favourable circumstances, but expressed his regret that the bankrupt had not stopped in 1850, when he first discovered that the bank was insolvent. A certificate of the second class, suspended for a year with protection, was granted. It was stated that the estate was expected to pay 10*s.* in the pound. Amongst the great mass of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood the bank was considered perfectly safe, and many individual instances of great hardship are said to be involved in its stoppage.

The following are the particulars of the exports of metals for the months ending May 31, in 1855 and 1856 respectively:—

	1855.	1856.	Increase.	Decrease.
Hardware and cutlery..	£ 228,115	£ 283,979	£ 55,863	
Machinery..	232,913	197,513		£ 35,400
Iron..	860,705	1,202,232	341,527	
Steel, unwrought..	58,564	61,313	2,749	
Copper..	150,816	195,110	4,294	
Brass..	6,550	5,708		742
Lead..	64,411	72,549	8,138	
Tin, unwrought..	12,456	22,495	9,939	
Tin-plates..	119,463	140,817	21,354	

IRON AND COAL TRADES OF YORKSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN CHESTERFIELD.]

JULY 3.—The preliminary meeting of ironmasters, which has resulted in a determination to maintain existing prices, has given satisfaction to all the leading firms, who are well employed, and who have, during a period of comparative depression, "weathered the storm" of low prices, and kept the works in full operation at the prices that have ruled for the last six months. Indeed, with the prospect of a good fall trade during the ensuing quarter from America, it would have been unwise to make any reduction. The demand from the States—which has been unusually light, and has disappointed the expectations of all the best informed men in the trade—has revived within the last few weeks, and bids fair to become good during the present quarter. So extensive are our relations with nearly all foreign nations, and so essential are our iron productions to them, especially in the construction of their railways, which appear likely to become of universal application, that little apprehension need be felt of any decline in prices. No other country than Great Britain is prepared, by its iron or coal workings, to supply the demand which must be created by railways throughout the world.

There is a very steady production in the South Yorkshire and Derbyshire works, and we do not hear of less prices than the following being accepted:—Bars, 9*s.*; hoops, 10*s.*; plates, 10*s.* 10*s.* at the works; but there is great reason for complaints of South Yorkshire makers delivering iron into Yorkshire at less than the above quotations. As good mine iron cannot be produced below the above-named prices, we trust the buyers will soon be convinced of the folly of buying such worthless stuff as comes into market at lower prices. Scotch pig has undergone considerable fluctuations lately, but has rallied from the lowest prices, under the influence of increased demand and the reduction of the rate of interest by the Bank of England. The pigs of the Cleveland district are offered at lower prices, and are delivered into the Yorkshire markets at several shillings per ton below the price of Scotch.

The traffic on railways for the past half-year exhibits a remarkable increase, and has resulted in an extraordinary rise in the value of this long-depressed property. Thus, London and North-Western, with 553 miles of railway, has earned 70,000*l.*; Lancashire and Yorkshire, with 253 miles, 61,000*l.*; London and South-Western, with 258 miles, 62,000*l.*; Great Western, with 319 miles, 55,000*l.*; Midland, with 498 miles, 49,000*l.*; Great Northern, with 233 miles, 40,000*l.*; South-Eastern, with 290 miles, 38,000*l.*; North-Eastern, with 352 miles, 34,000*l.*; London and Brighton, with 173 miles, 33,000*l.* more than in the corresponding period of last

and, coupled with the Board of Trade returns, a marked increase in our commerce, which is the more cheering as it has been realised in defiance of dear money and provisions, and when causes are in operation that checked in some degree our relations with one or more foreign nations.

The coal trade this week has manifested signs of improvement, considering the season of the year, and prices now are better and more steady than they were a fortnight or a month ago. The London coal market has advanced its price, which at present is likely to be maintained. The preparations for the export of coal from Grimsby are going on rapidly. The colliers employed at the Oaks Colliery, near Barnsley, have struck work, in consequence of the dangerous state of the pit, which they allege is not safe to work in. Mr. Morton, of Wakefield, the Government Inspector of the district, has been informed by the men of the condition of the pit, and at their request he attended and inspected it, but we have not yet learnt the nature of his report. The men have held several conferences with their employers, but as yet we have not heard whether the alleged grievances have been removed. The workingmen's train for the extensive collieries of Mr. Barrow, of Staveley, commenced running on Monday last, but the experiment has not realised the expectations which were entertained of it. Mr. Barrow finds engines and carriages, and pays to the railway company 2*d.* per day per passenger—the whole amount charged to each for a journey of about 10 miles. Notwithstanding this low fare, the great bulk of those men who walk eight or nine miles per day to and from their work state that they cannot afford to pay the money; the probability, however, is that they have not the prudence to save it.

The mineral trades of these counties are now affording employment for twice the number of hands they did a few years ago, and new works in the coal district round Chesterfield are fast springing up. The demand for Derbyshire ironstone is increasing weekly, and there is a good prospect of future activity. The withdrawal of the Rating of Mines Bill is another practical illustration of what combined effort may accomplish. The Derbyshire miners, who would have been affected by it, have the honour to feel that they were first to rise in the battle, long before their Cornish brethren could be roused to action.

STOCK, MINING, AND RAILWAY SHARES IN IRELAND.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN.]

JULY 3.—The market for securities of all descriptions has been exceedingly buoyant and active. The Government Funds rose day after day, and quote fully 1*1/2* per cent. above last week's quotations. This was owing to the great ease in the money-market, the prospect of an abundant harvest, and the belief that our transatlantic friends are becoming more pacific in their intentions. When to these is added the prospect of the July dividends giving a great support to the market, the cause of this upward movement is at once perceptible. Shares followed the upward tendency of the funds, but transactions were principally confined to railway shares, which were in extraordinary demand, and rose in every instance. Great Southern and Western and Midland Great Western each 1*1/2* higher; Waterford and Limerick shares 3*s.*, and other shares in proportion. The following are the latest quotations:—Consols, 95*1/2*; New Three per Cent., 96*1/2*; Hibernian Bank, 31*1/2*; National Bank, 35; Mining Company of Ireland, 14*1/2*; Wicklow Copper Mine, 28*1/2*; Belfast Junction Railway, 46*1/2*; Dublin and Drogheda, 67; Dublin and Wicklow, 71; Dundalk and Enniskillen, 14; Great Southern and Western, 55*1/2*; Midland Great Western, 53*1/2*; Waterford and Limerick, 52; Waterford and Limerick, 24*1/2*. The half-yearly meeting of the Mining Company of Ireland was held to-day, and a more satisfactory report or statement of accounts has seldom been presented to the proprietors on a similar occasion: in fact the Chairman stated it as the conviction of himself and co-directors that the company had never been in a better or sounder condition than it is at present. The statement of accounts shows a profit of 11,499*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* on the working of the past half-year—equal to the last or summer half-year, and about 4000*l.* better than the corresponding half-year in 1855. From this sum, however, 3980*l.* are deducted for bad debts and deficiency of stock; this is done to clear off their accounts, outstanding now for several years. This shows a net profit of 7519*l.*, out of which a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum has been declared, free of income tax. The position of the company may be properly seen when it is known that in the purchase of property, royalties, and the payment of old accounts now alluded to, over 10,000*l.* has been expended within the last 12 months. [The directors' report, &c., are given in another column.]

The case of the Mizen Head Mining Company has again been before the Master, who rules that Mr. Long, who was trustee, director, pursuer, and secretary, as also solicitor to the company, must deliver up all books and documents in his possession, and he can subsequently file a claim for costs and other charges he may have against the company.

METAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS IN FRANCE.

[FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.]

JULY 3.—The last settling day, like the preceding one, has proved fatal to small capitalists, and nothing is heard of among them but *execution*. However, no sooner was the actual state of affairs known, than the 3 per Cent. rose slightly—perhaps, more under the influence of the rise in the English Consols than from any other cause. Several brokers are said to have suffered severely from the failure of their clients to fulfil their engagements; added to which the late action of M. Goupy against the Credit Mobilier (about which I will send full particulars in my next), tends to make the future unsatisfactory. In the metal market there is no movement worthy of note beyond the lowering of prices mentioned in my last. The quotations for metals stand the same.

In a former communication, I made some allusion to the curious propensities which distinguish the relatives of the British Ambassador here, and spoke of the advantage which they take of his official position to carry on their private speculations, not always of the most honourable character, as may be seen from the following remarks, which were communicated by an English engineer, long time established. The individual who sought to exploit another man's invention, and at the expense of my correspondent, represented himself as the nephew of the English Ambassador, and when asked to cover the advances, pretended to be very indignant, and stated that that was not the way he was accustomed to do business, which certainly appears to be true, for hereafter it will be easy to believe that he is not accustomed to pay. He gave, as a proof of his respectability, reference to a banker in Paris, and to his lodging at the Grand Hotel du Louvre. My informant took out a French patent, about six weeks ago, for the Ambassador's nephew, for a pretended invention of working atmospheric signals by vacuum, and which consisted in placing a small hand pump at the disposal of the party signalling, connected by Indian rubber tubing to a small cylinder, provided with a piston carrying a clock-bell, placed near the party to be signalled. On suddenly moving the pump piston, a partial vacuum would be created through the tube under the bell piston, which descending would act as a clapper, or hammer, and strike the bell. The Ambassador's nephew desired the effect to be produced by vacuum, as a party in England worked the same apparatus by atmospheric pressure. Although his patent was described to work by vacuum alone, he insisted in having the model made so that both vacuum and pressure were required; for, although the hammer was forced to strike by the vacuum, pressure was required to replace the apparatus in position necessary for action. This job was paid for; the particulars have been given that some of your readers may probably recognise the source from which the invention was derived. The individual in question wished my informant to act as his agent, and to be able to show the apparatus at work. For this purpose he took one with him to my informant, and requested to have it properly fitted up in his office, which was done. He then ordered another apparatus, somewhat similar, but with certain alterations on his original plan, which was made, and, when completed, he refused to take the apparatus ordered, or to pay for the fittings erected in the office.

The most questionable part of the business is, that the model the Ambassador's nephew took with him bore the name of Palmer—or, at least, that name could be made out from the marks of letters which had been removed; the defaced name was covered with a piece of paper, bearing the name of ———, *brovett*. He also brought a printed plan of these sig-

* We do not hesitate to assert that the invention to which our correspondent refers is the "Air-Engine Telegraph," invented by Mr. C. E. Palmer, of Southampton, in 1851, descriptions of which appeared in the *Mining Journal* of July 15 and 22, and which invention was again noticed in a Supplement to the *Journal* of July 29, 1854, when an explanatory diagram was also inserted. We are very doubtful whether this invention has not just been re-patented by Mons. Spiller, of Paris, and if so it would, we should think, become void by its having been previously known in France. We trust our Paris Correspondent will compare the inventions, and inform us further on the subject.—Ed. M. J.

nals for working the ship's rudder; the signalling pumps were placed near the man on the lookout, and corresponding to bells placed at the rudder, in the engine-room, and captain's cabin. This plan bore no name whatever, and the top and bottom part of the printed plan had been cut off, just the places where the title and inventor's name are usually placed. If this had been printed to illustrate his patent, what object could there have been in mutilating it?

From the above, and previous information which has been furnished, it appears highly important that the nation should determine whether its representative, so lavishly paid, should be permitted to make his high position subservient to the private speculative purposes of his relatives, and thus bring our people and Government into discredit. So soon as any of the favoured relatives have obtained possession of an invention, his lordship will either present them to the Emperor or to the heads of departments. Lucky ambassador! lucky family! who manage to combine the sweets of office with the comforts of business.

MINING AND COMMERCE IN THE UNITED STATES.

There has been no important change in the street value of money during the last four weeks. Best indorsed paper sells at 7 to 7*1/2* per cent.; loans on calls are abundant at simple interest. The banks have been unable to obtain a full supply of short paper, and have liberally discounted for their customers. Exchange on London is 9 7-8 per cent., or 54-88 to the pound sterling. Condition of the New York and Boston banks:—

	Capital.	Loans.	Specie.	Circulation.	Deposits.
New York, May 10, 1856..	49,944,420	103,303,793	13,317,365	3,662,485	89,478,203
June 7, 1856..	48,502,420	103,474,921	16,166,180	8,430,232	90,609,243
Boston, May 10, 1856..	31,900,000	52,690,241	4,487,720	7,174,128	17,001,041
June 7, 1856..	31,900,000	52,245,595	3,802,540	7,180,780	15,859,276

BANKS.—The constant enquiry for investment, carries the price in some instances to the real value on their books. Owing to the high price of money for several years past, and the consequent opportunity of charging exchange, and the general solvency of the mercantile community, the majority of the banks have been able to return their stockholders semi-annual dividends of 4 per cent., and in some instances have accumulated a handsome reserve. These results have very properly stimulated capitalists and others to look to this class of investments with much favour. Savings banks also, whose deposits in the aggregate have far exceeded the expectation of the public when first incorporated, and whose investments are restricted by law, find no security which, considering the immediate convertibility, as well as safety, affords a more profitable investment.

MINES.—The unfortunate result of Railroad and Land Companies during the past two years, has turned the attention of capitalists to the mines of Lake Superior. The adventures in that region commenced in 1844. Twice since that year they have been the subjects of wild speculation. In 1845 the discoveries of silver and the magnitude of the masses of native copper in several localities, produced the first mania in mining shares. In 1853, the success of the Cliff and Minnesota mines, and the brilliant prospects of the North American, Copper Falls, and North-Western mines, gave rise to a second inflation of all the mining stock in the market. A reaction followed, and the result to day is, so far as it is possible to be determined, that not a mining share is selling above its value. In this period of twelve years, much real progress has been made in the knowledge of the geology and mineralogy of the region, and in the art of mining. Silver is found in very minute quantities in every mine, but never in veins. Copper exists in extraordinary masses in certain positions, but the majority of mines make dividends from the economical management of barrel and stamp work. The facilities for transportation have already been vastly increased by the completion of the ship canal at the falls of St. Mary. Eventually, when railroad routes are established by the way of Wisconsin, the present difficulties of communication with Lake Superior during the winter will be obviated, and the mines now abandoned on account of their distance from the lake shore will be wrought at a profit.

PITTSBURGH AND BOSTON (CLIFF).—This stock has advanced to \$27*1/2*, with none for sale under \$27*1/2*. It is understood that the August dividend will be \$20 per share. The yield for May has not been received.

MINESOTA.—Sales have recently been made at \$90 (ex dividend of \$10), and apparently but few shares in the market. The product of this mine surpasses the most sanguine expectations of its managers. Independently of its enormous yield, no business organisation of any description has ever displayed more financial skill or economical management.

ROCKLAND.—The stock is in demand at \$25. The winter season was devoted to opening the mine, preparatory to stopping during the summer. The south vein of the Minnesota Company is proved on the Rockland territory, and the mining grounds of the old and new workings connected by an adit level. A similar show of masses appear on the territory of one on the other. Apparently, there is no reason why the Rockland should not, at no distant day, be equal to the Minnesota.

FLINT STEEL RIVER.—This company, an offshoot from the Minnesota, has been at work two years. Recently the Minnesota south vein has been traced for a mile on the location. Efficient means have been taken to prove the value of the lode. The assessments hitherto, amounting to \$20,000, and sales of stock on the company's account for \$10,000 more, are equal to an outlay of \$1-50 per share on the whole 20,000 shares. Further instalments will be called for soon. The management is essentially the same as the Minnesota and Rockland Companies.

ISLE ROYALE.—The product of the winter season was 114 tons, leaving the company a surplus of cash assets, over every liability, of \$45,000. The yield for May was 26 tons. The mine improves in depth, and pays not less than \$4000 profit per month.

PEWABIC.—This location is on the northern side of the Portage Lake. Its territory consists of 320 acres of mineral lands. The metalliferous deposits are of a character similar to those of the Isle Royale Company, and have produced, principally from the sinking of two shafts on the vein (one of 60 ft. and another of 63), and drifting some 50 ft. on the first level, 40 tons of barrel copper. If this extraordinary development holds good through the summer's working, a mine will be laid out extensively without further assessments. The stock is in demand at quotations.

TOLTEC.—There was no product in April. In May 11 tons of barrel and mass work were raised. They had about 1000 tons of stamp work on hand June 1, which is supposed will produce not less than 10 tons of copper. The general prospects of the mine are represented by the committee of investigation as gradually improving. The transactions in the stock have been larger during the past month than in all the other mining shares.

COPPER FALLS.—The mines yielded in May 11 tons, which paid the cost of production. The stock has advanced recently 75 cents per share. The annual meeting of stockholders was held on June 11. The balance of liabilities over assets was stated to be \$12,275-79.

Boston, June 16.

DUPER, PERKINS, AND SAYLES.

THE IRON TRADE—ITS STATE AND PROSPECTS.

The attendance on "Change at Wolverhampton on Wednesday, and Birmingham on Thursday, was good, but there was not much business done. Buyers of pig-iron are inclined to wait a little before purchasing, in the hope that the demand for wrought-iron will increase. I believe it is most likely to increase, for it cannot be expected that orders for America and Canada will be reduced so much as they have been the last three months. I never recollect a time when so little demand existed as at the past spring, and it is admitted on all hands that the stocks were never so low in both countries as now; in fact, the same may be said of the stocks at home; for a considerable time the merchants have only bought from hand to mouth, but of course when prices are high it is prudent to hold as little as possible, and at the high rate for money, most convenient ton.

During the last few days there have been some good bar and sheet-iron orders received from the United States, and it is during the next six weeks that Canadian orders must come in, if at all, as shipments to the States cease at the end of August. There is a slight increase in the stocks of pigs; but this is not to be wondered at, as during the hot weather the pig-forges cannot work full time, and in some of the large works the pig-forgers have, in consequence of the heat, played for several days. The makers of pig-iron continue to be very large; few makes are coming into the district from a distance. The Shropshire houses are sending more than any one just now, and in addition to the old sellers, the pigs made by the Strickley Company are being sold into Staffordshire, instead of (as formerly) being used up into wrought-iron on the spot. I can here mention that it is not the intention of the Shropshire houses to make any alteration in their quotations at quarter-day. The quarterly meetings of the trade commence next Tuesday at Walsall, and end at Dudley on Saturday.—*Journal* MASTER: Worcester Journal, this day.

IMPROVED MODE OF IRON SMELTING.

In the Journal of May 31, when remarking on Mr. Mickle's patent, we estimated the capital required on an extensive and rough-working scale: we now refer to the net cost of carbonising and pumping per ton of coals:—

Leading coals	3 1/2d.
Drawing coals	1 1/2d.
Filling, balanced by ordinary filling from stock, but allow	1
Extra putting coals to furnace	1
Labour at pipes, lat-tanks, putters, ballast, &c., and two	2 1/2d.
superintendents	1 1/2d.
Filing, used with loam and small coals, 3 1/2d.	1 1/2d.
Tar worth	1
Engines, oil, tallow, &c.	0 1/2d.
Engine, boiler, coal-box, holder, and pipe repairs	0 1/2d.
Retort repairs	0 1/2d.
Shovels, rakes, &c.	0 1/2d.
Heating stoves—Firemen	1 1/2d.
Repairs	1 1/2d.
Charging furnace with equivalent of coke to gas	1 = 0 0 3/4

Balance £0 1 0 1/2
Suppose to make 1 ton of metal—37 cwts. coke, now at 11s. £1 0 4
37 cwts. coal, then, at 6s.—above 1s. 3/4d., but allow 1s. 6d. = 7s. 6d. 0 13 10

Balance £0 6 6

The average cost is, and saving will be, more than these; but if not so, it reduces the cost of cast-iron 6s. 6d. per ton, and saves yearly upwards of 3,000,000 tons of coal.

We estimate on the use of small retorts, but believe they may be built of fire-bricks and lumps to hold 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 tons of coal—say 9 feet wide, 3 high, and 11 deep—on ground level; the coal charged on to an iron dish, then drawn in at one end of the retort, by a horse hauling a chain attached to the dish, and passing out at the other end, round a sheave. Tiers of smaller can be placed above the principal retort. The coke will be larger, and harder, from being longer under the fire; the process less minute; the men not subjected to such severe heat; and the cost probably less in capital, repairs, and tonnage labour.

In some iron-making districts, layers of tender coal—and the small (not used for coking) separated after being worked—are left in the pit and buried; or the small is burnt in heaps at bank: the labour and expense, with the coal, are thus lost. The new system obviates this.

Additionally to economy of fuel, increased produce and improved quality have to be considered. The iron trade is subject to vicissitudes, and if price again be so low as not to be remunerative, and this improvement postponed till that time, and then used by the more wealthy firms, in what position will those whose sole dependence is their business and their sales? The erections require considerable outlay; and the alternatives will be—to incur this, close the furnaces, or change of proprietary.

COMMERCIAL SPECULATION.

The following is a list of the companies which have been introduced on the Stock Exchange during the present year:—

Company.	Capital.	Company.	Capital.
1 Acadian Iron	£250,000	25 Great Yarmouth Fishery ..	£20,000
2 Alliance Bank	800,000	26 Hamer's Elephant Gas	50,000
3 Bank of Egypt	250,000	27 Imperial Hotel	1,000,000
4 Ottoman Bank	500,000	28 Western Bank of London ..	400,000
5 Bank of Switzerland ..	800,000	29 National Discount	1,000,000
6 Pernambuco Railway ..	1,200,000	30 West Metropolitan Bank ..	300,000
7 Riga Railway	1,000,000	31 Bank of Wales	100,000
8 Ceylon Railway	800,000	32 Unity Bank	300,000
9 Eastern Bengal Railway ..	1,000,000	33 London Armoury	60,000
10 Italian Junction	1,000,000	34 London Wise	50,000
11 Lombard-Venetia	6,000,000	35 British Bag	50,000
12 Lombard-Venetia	1,000,000	36 Bernard's Patent	120,000
13 Indian Mercantile Agency ..	1,000,000	37 Metropolitan Milk	50,000
14 Colonial Fibre	100,000	38 North & South Wales Steam	30,000
15 Haldor Mills (Ceylon) ..	100,000	39 Metropolitan Field Bleach-	30,000
16 Turkish Gas	100,000	40 Ing and Securing	40,000
17 Caisse des Mines	800,000	41 Surrey Gardens	40,000
18 Quartz Reduction (Californ.)	50,000	42 West Ham Distillery	200,000
19 Société des Clapiers Franç.	800,000	43 Thames Steaming and Light-	200,000
20 Trinidad Fuel	50,000	44 Mid-Kent Railway	70,000
21 Bahari Coal Mining Co. ..	100,000	45 Brighton Hotel	50,000
22 Société Parisienne, for Sup-	800,000		
plying Coals to Paris	100,000		
23 Fibre and Paper	100,000		
24 Fairfield Candle	100,000		

The aggregate capital apparently demanded for the above is £23,490,000, a total which would already seem alarming, but that it admits of several important deductions. The schemes from No. 1 to No. 22 inclusive are alone those which involve outlay in foreign countries. They amount to 19,110,000, and as several of them, such as the Lombard-Venetia Railway, the Italian Junction Railway, the Bank of Switzerland, and the Société des Clapiers Français, have been subscribed jointly on the English and Continental Exchanges, the sum will be by that means diminished about £6,000,000. Another million or two may be estimated for the Bank capitals, which will probably not be required to be paid up in full. The actual amount, therefore, now promised to foreign countries may be set down within 11,000,000. This will not appear extremely heavy, when it is recollected that in 1853 a sum nearly as large was undertaken to be supplied to one concern alone—the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada—but it is to be borne in mind that these claims do not represent all that are in progress, since Australian and Canadian, and a variety of other debentures, are quietly negotiated almost every week, and there is likewise an advance of 1,000,000, to be made to Sardinia. With regard to the companies in the list numbered 23 to 44, whose operations are confined to home, there is little to call for remark. Their total is £4,380,000, and 1,000,000 of this is placed to the Imperial Hotel scheme, which is either in abeyance or abandoned, while 1,100,000, is taken by the National Discount Company and several banks, and is therefore in no way diverted from public use. It is a singular fact, that while the law of limited liability has been essential on the ground that it would prove a stimulus to the wildest speculation, it has thus far led only to a few moderate and for the most part useful projects, which may serve in their degree the healthful purpose of finding employment for our energies within the limits of our own shores.—Times.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

ENGLAND.—Subjoined are the traffic returns of the various English lines for the past week:—

Eastern Counties, Norfolk, and Eastern Union ..	1855.	1856.	1854.
Great Western	326,130	296,037	328,552
Great Eastern	30,567	27,582	24,157
London and North-Western ..	21,563	20,408	18,228
London and South-Western ..	30,567	27,582	24,157
London and Brighton	19,352	17,738	15,609
London and Blackwall	18,437	17,678	16,134
London and Chesham	1,737	1,730	1,744
London and Tottenham	20,703	21,067	18,689
London and Finsbury	7,291	7,081	6,587
London and Highbury	6,338	5,639	5,625
London and Lambeth	7,536	6,100	6,105
London and Victoria	23,325	22,307	20,582
London and Waterloo	6,390	6,151	5,981
London and Westminster	30,921	29,246	27,403
Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire ..	9,630	9,247	8,260
Manchester and Carlisle	3,888	3,973	3,271
Manchester and Liverpool	37,047	36,643	32,189
North-Eastern	4,009	3,497	3,320
North-Western	3,394	2,520	2,277
North and Yorkshire	6,341	5,630	5,324
North and London	2,363	2,316	2,297
North and Great Eastern	2,800	2,800	2,800
North and Great Western	4,717	3,753	3,474
North and Great Northern	2,842	2,679	2,406

SCOTLAND.—The returns on Scotch lines are:—

Aberdeen and Scottish Midland ..	1855.	1856.	1854.
Calcutta	£ 3,425	£ 3,234	£ 2,668
Edinburgh and Glasgow	12,127	12,200	11,522
Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, and Scot. Central	5,381	4,807	5,450
Glasgow and South-Western	7,110	5,929	5,242
Glasgow and North-Western	6,108	6,287	5,952
North British	4,910	5,223	4,199

Total £39,171 £37,708 £35,031

IRELAND.—The Irish returns are:—

Great Southern and Western	7,506	7,389	6,163
Dublin and Drogheda	1,363	1,106	1,022
Dublin and Great Northern	7,328	7,300	6,551
Dublin and Great Eastern	4,551	3,603	3,190
Dublin and Great Southern	1,284	1,211	1,213
Total	£19,616	£17,465	£15,739

Total £19,618 £17,465 £15,734

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MILFORD HAVEN AND AMERICA.—It is said that the Milford Haven has been selected as the port of departure for America of a line of steamers of immense tonnage and great power. Mr. Enoch Hall, of Boston, U.S., has been surveying the ground, for the purpose of running four steamers of 4000 tons each. Another gentleman, Mr. J. Crocker, of Southampton, has been inspecting the port, for the purpose of ascertaining the capabilities for the departure of steamers of immense power and tonnage. The latter gentleman is the owner of some large steamers plying between Southampton and America; but these are not to be re-moved, as a perfectly new line is to be created. The owner of the Milford estates has given every facility for the use of the land.

THE LONDON GENERAL OMNIBUS COMPANY.—The traffic receipts for the week ending June 23 amounted to 10,426, 8s. 1d.—A. G. CROCKER, Sec.

WEEKLY LIST OF NEW PATENTS.

GRANTS OF PROVISIONAL PROTECTION FOR SIX MONTHS.—J. Y. SWANSON, Edinburgh, and W. THOMSON, Belfast: Manufacture or production of lubricating oil from a new material.—H. CARRUTHERS, Dean, Boreley, Salop: Application of steam-coils to steam engines, and in work, such engines thereby.—J. T. PIRNIE, 67, Gracechurch-street: A new method of using the electric current or currents for telegraphic and other purposes.—J. HADGUE, Ashton-under-Lyne: Machinery or apparatus for manufacturing bands or cords for driving machinery and other purposes.—S. T. JONES, Greenwell, and J. HARRIS, Dolgelly, Merionethshire: An amalgamating-machine to extract gold and silver, and to separate iron from crushed mineral ores in water.—J. B. HOWELL, Sheffield: Manufacture of cast-steel tyres.—E. R. HAWKWOOD, 16, North Frederick-street, Dublin, and Lower Belgrave-street, Westminster: Mechanism connected with engines to be worked by steam or other motive power.—W. A. GILBERT, 4, South-street, Finsbury, and 39, Rue de l'Echiquier, Paris: Locomotion on railroads, part of which improvements are also applicable to ordinary roads.—J. A. LONGHEDS, 17, Fludyer-street, Westminster: Obtaining and applying motive-power for the conveyance of minerals, pumping, and other purposes in mines in which motive-power is required.—J. MILLER, Drogheda, Ireland: Furnaces for more effectually consuming the smoke, and economising the fuel employed therein.—H. H. VIVIAN, B. G. HARRIS, and W. MORRIS, all of the Hafod Works, Swansea: Manufacture of copper, and in obtaining gold and silver from the ores employed in such manufacture.—D. DAVY, Tudhoe Iron-Works, Ferry Hill, Durham: Manufacture of iron.—J. SAKBY, Brighton: A mode of working simultaneously the points and signals of railways at junctions to prevent accidents.—D. DAVY, Wigmor-street, Cavendish-square: Wheel tyres: J. H. JOHNSON, 47, Lincoln's Inn-fields, and Glasgow: Railway breaks.—L. BOWEN, Birmingham: Manufacture of bolts, rivets, spikes, screw blanks, nuts for screws, and washers.—S. S. ROSS, 45, West-street, Gateshead: Railway and other carriage breaks.—A. POPE, Edgware-road: Manufacture of steel.—M. ALLEN, 39, Cavendish-grove, Wandsworth-road: Arranging and working the slide-valves of steam-engines.—G. A. BAYNE, Wigan: Apparatus for the prevention of accidents in ascending and descending shafts of mines.—R. W. CHANDLER, Bow, Middlesex, and T. OLIVER, Hatfield, Hertford: Engines employed for agricultural purposes.

SEPARATING METALS FROM THEIR ORES.—Mr. T. J. Chubb, of New York, has patented a machine for effecting the separation of ores and metals, by a simple process, and without the use of water, which, if found to answer the purposes of its construction, will prove highly valuable for gold and other mines. A machine of moderate size will, it is said, work off from 5 to 8 tons of crushed ore per day, and extract the pure metal, and the amount of fuel and expense connected with refining the metal by a chemical process. The object is effected by disintegrating the crushed ore in a funnel to an elevated platform; then, by a current of air, the metal is thrown out at one end, whilst the refuse finds its way to the other. The inventor states that his process is so certain, that there would not be 10 per cent. of gold to the ton of ore found in the refuse. A company is in the course of formation for working the patent.

MANUFACTURE OF IRON.—Mr. C. J. Hampton, of Llynryd, Glamorgan, has specified his patent for improvements in the manufacture of iron. The invention consists of improvements in the manufacture of iron, by applying a combination of lime with an alkali or alkaline salt in the puddling and refining furnaces; for which purpose the alkali or alkaline salt is dissolved, and the solution mixed with quicklime, and in this state introduced into the puddling or refining furnace, with or without other matters. He dissolves a caustic alkali, or an alkaline salt, in water, and with this solution slacks or saturates a certain quantity of quicklime, and mixes the lime so saturated with the iron in the puddling or refining furnace, which is then introduced into the furnaces, either alone or mixed with other ingredients, such as manganese or oxide of iron. The invention is not confined to any definite proportions of the several ingredients, as they must be regulated by the nature and quality of the iron operated on, but the proportions found most generally useful are—1 lb. of water, in which 3 ozs. of caustic alkali (preferably potash) have been dissolved, are used for slacking 3 lbs. of quicklime, and the lime so combined with the alkali is introduced into the puddling or refining furnace (either alone or mixed with other ingredients, as before named), and is then mixed with 5 cwts. of iron, the object being that the alkali (either caustic, or as an alkaline salt) shall flux the impurities combined with the iron. The inventor does not claim the use of the alkaline salts, nor of lime, in purifying iron, as they have been separately used before; but he claims the use of the alkalies and the alkaline salts chemically combined with lime, by the process of slacking, and introduced into the puddling or refining furnace in that state of combination, either with or without other matters.

CAST-IRON AND CAST-STEEL.—Messrs. Price and Nicholson, of London, have patented some improvements in the manufacture of cast-iron, which consist in melting together any kind of grey pig-iron with the product of the intermediate process in the manufacture of wrought-iron from pig-iron, usually termed "metal," "finer metal," or "refined metal," to lower the percentage of silicon in cast-iron, which is the product of the intermediate process, and to lower the percentage of the elements contained in those kinds of pig-iron used for foundry purposes, and generally found to be the same. The quantity in which these elements are present varies according as this iron has been smelted by the hot or cold-blast, with fossil fuel or charcoal, or to the nature of the ores; thus, when hot-blast pig-iron and cold-blast pig-iron are made from the same ores, fuel, and flux, the former, or hot-blast pig-iron, is found to contain a large amount of silicon and less carbon than the latter, or cold-blast iron. Charcoal pig-iron is found also to contain less silicon and sulphur than pig-iron smelted by either coal or coke, and this result is quite independent of the temperature of the blast. The strength of cast-iron is unduly influenced by the greater or less percentage of silicon which it contains; this is the impurity generally present in the largest proportions, and perhaps, therefore, influences the quality of the iron to a greater extent than any other impurity. The product employed is found to be freer from impurities, and more especially from silicon, than either charcoal or coke iron, whilst the amount of carbon which it contains differs but slightly from that in the pig-iron from which it was manufactured. It is evident that if "metal" be mixed with grey pig-iron, the mixture so made will contain less silicon than the grey pig-iron used alone, and that the percentage of silicon in this product will depend upon the relative proportions of metal and pig-iron employed; and further, than an iron, either grey or mottled, can be produced, according to circumstances. It will also be obvious, from the above statement, that by employing coal or coke iron, and "metal" obtained from the same, that a cast-iron having the composition of charcoal pig-iron, and metal made from the same, a cast-iron of exceeding purity will be produced. The pig-iron preferred is cold-blast, from spathose, argillaceous hematite, or magnetic oxides, to avoid the presence of too great an amount of phosphorus. The "metal" is refined until it has lost the whole, or nearly the whole, of its silicon, the object being to lose as little carbon as possible. Messrs. Price and Nicholson have also patented the adaptation of the same process to the manufacture of the cast-steel, mixing the "metal" with suitable proportions of wrought-iron.

MOTIVE POWER.—Mons. M. P. A. Gilardou, of Paris, has patented an invention which consists, first, in using a certain quantity of liquid, equal to a weight of at least three atmospheres, to compress the air alternately into two parallel pumps, thereby obtaining a power equal to the weight employed; secondly, to make use of the compressed air for propelling a horizontal cylinder in which a vacuum is produced; and lastly, to compel the weight employed for compressing the air to pass from one side of the apparatus to the other.

CAST-IRON.—Provisional specification was filed, but protection refused to Mr. F. Prince, of London, for improvements in the manufacture of cast-iron, consisting in combining with cast-iron certain proportions of metals not heretofore employed in combination, more particularly in the manufacture of ordnance and firearms; said improvements being designed for the purpose of giving to cast-iron greater strength, and rendering it more homogeneous throughout than heretofore. For the compilation of a patent agent, this specification is the most unintelligible and incomplete we have ever been compelled to read.

IMPROVEMENT IN IRON HOUSES.—Mr. W. Clarke, of Hertford-road, Kingsland, has recently patented an important improvement in the construction of iron houses, consisting in the use of a certain material, which is applied to the interior of the iron houses or other similar buildings, as it can be adopted by persons entirely unacquainted with mechanical craft, and when the parts are united the strength is fully equal to the wrought-iron part of the structure. The buildings may be separated and put together innumerable times without damage or injury, the parts of the building only requiring to be marked at the points to be joined.

IMPROVED ROASTING-JACK.—A patent (obtained through Mr. Campin, patent agent) has just been specified for Mr. W. Escott, of Tavistock, for improvements in the suspension roasting-jack, invented and patented by Mr. W. Symons; it consists in this, that instead of the plinon, to which the meat is hung, working in connection with the ground and crown wheels, as in the old suspension jack, there is an additional pinion working with the ground wheel only, and carrying the meat, whereby the objection is obviated, that as the mechanism gets worn by the weight of the meat, the working draw away from the pinion, whereas, by the adoption of this invention, this additional pinion, which has nothing to do but work in the ground wheel, and carry the meat, is not liable to the objection aforesaid.

STEAM PACKING.—The demand amongst engineers and manufacturers for the North Woolwich steam packing is greatly increasing: its durability, facility for application, and cheapness, is bringing it into general use. The material is composed of India rubber and canvas, and made to any size, at the cost of 1s. 4 1/2d. per pound. Amongst those who have given Messrs. Silver and Co. testimonials in its favour, are Messrs. Howard, Ravenhill, & Co.; Joshua Schofield and Sons; and Mr. Beadmore, engineer to the General Steam Navigation Company.

COAL MINES INSPECTION IN LANSHIRE.—On Thursday, Mr. James Lomas, of Clayton Hall, Clayton-le-Moors, was summoned before the magistrate at Acreington by Joseph Dickinson, Esq., Inspector of Coal Mines for the Manchester district, and fined in full penalties (viz. 10l.), for not keeping a proper plan of his Luck's All Colliery, at Great Harwood; 5l. for not having had rules established at the colliery; and 5l. for not having a proper means of signalling up and down the pit, being 20l. in all, in addition to the costs.

CAUTION TO COLLIERIES.—At the Bridgend Petty Sessions, Wm. Williams pleaded guilty to a breach of colliery rules, in the works of Messrs. Vivian and Sons. Defendant, in extenuation, said he had had a drop of beer, and also expressed his sorrow for the offence. This being the first charge under the bye-laws made under the Act of last session, he was discharged on promising to pay 10s. to the sick fund of Morris Colliery, and paying costs of the proceedings.—Alfred Jones, son-law of last defendant, was charged with a similar offence, and dealt with in the same manner; but the Bench intimated that, if any cases of this nature were brought before them in future, they would inflict the penalty.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, yesterday, Mr. Commissioner Fane, in awarding an immediate first-class certificate to Mr. Fell, the attorney of Northamptonshire, said, the duty imposed upon him was a very gratifying one, inasmuch as it rarely happened with estates brought into that Court that the result was so favourable to all parties concerned. He might remark, in connection with this case, that the remuneration to the official assignee, and the expense of winding-up an estate in bankruptcy, were much less than under the Winding-up Act, besides the greater facility for realising the assets.

A prospectus has been issued of the Thames Steam Tug and Lighterage Company (Limited), which proposes to establish on the River Thames a class of light draught iron steamers, constructed for the safe storage and rapid delivery of goods; also tug boats for the towage of their own and other craft, by which means it is anticipated that the traffic of the river will be assisted, and colliers relieved from delays in the Pool.

PENNANCE CONSOLS MINE.

Sir,—Having observed several public notices impugning my character, in connection with this mine, I take the present and last opportunity of informing all parties concerned in the said adventure, that I shall be most happy to submit to arbitration the whole question as between myself and the committee of management. On their consenting to this proposition, I will at once enter into such joint engagements as shall ensure a full investigation of the matter in dispute. I have further to observe, that, in case of their refusing to meet me in this way, I shall consider myself at liberty to take such legal proceedings as may be necessary, for my own reputation and the settlement of accounts now open. 60, Gracechurch-street, June 30, 1856. W. BURGAN.

SORTRIDGE CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Mr. J. A. JOSEPH begs to inform the shareholders that circumstances have occurred that have suggested the propriety of his RESIGNING TEMPORARILY the SECRETARYSHIP of the company, until the matter in question shall have been fully explained to the general body of shareholders. This step has been taken with the concurrence, and by the direction, of the committee; and the books and papers have this day, consequently, been REMOVED by Mr. Joseph to the OFFICE of Mr. SCHOFIELD, of 19, TOKENHOUSE YARD, until the next general meeting, when the question of the appointment of a fit secretary will be fully discussed. Mr. Joseph has adopted this course, thinking it the best he could take under the circumstances, for the benefit of his friends interested in the concern, and the shareholders generally. 132, Bishopsgate-street Within, July 4, 1856.

RAILWAY MACHINERY.—WANTED, THE SERVICES of a

PERSON competent to SUPERINTEND the CONSTRUCTION of every description of RAILWAY STOCK and PLANT, including Carriages, Wagons, Turntables, Rails, Points and Crossings, &c.; also, the Conversion and Manufacture of Iron in all its stages. It is necessary that he possess thorough practical knowledge on the above points, and be accustomed to the preparation of working drawings and estimates, taking out quantities, &c. A suitable person will be liberally dealt with; and it is requested that none other than those possessing the above qualifications will reply to this. Applications, stating full particulars of previous occupation, with references, and views as to remuneration, may be addressed (confidentially) under cover to "R. B.," Post-office, Chelmsford, Essex.

TO COAL OR MINERAL OWNERS AND DEALERS.—

The BIRMINGHAM WAGON COMPANY is open to receive APPLICATIONS for the LETTING OF WAGONS ON HIRE.

B. SMITH, Secretary and General Manager. Offices, 101, New-street, Birmingham.

BLACKWOOD LEAD MINE (on the Estate of Rich. Wainwright, Esq., at Stanway Court, near Church Stretton, Salop).—THE SECOND MEETING of persons interested in the working of the above mine will be HELD at the Crown Hotel, Church Stretton, on Thursday, the 10th July, 1856, at 1.30 p.m. punctually, when a report of the prospects of the mine will be produced, and further steps determined upon. The meeting will be open to the public. In the meantime, information may be obtained from RICHARD WAINWRIGHT, Esq., Church Stretton; or from Messrs. KOUEN and SON, solicitors, Church Stretton, and Shrewsbury.

GREAT HEWAS UNITED MINES.—Notice is hereby given, that a GENERAL MEETING of shareholders in these mines will be HELD here on Tuesday, the 8th July next, at Two o'clock precisely, to transact business of great importance to the company. The Transfer-Book will remain closed until after Wednesday, the 9th July. By order of the Committee. Wm. CHARLES, Sec. Dated 27, Austinfriars, London.

POLITMORE MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that the officers of this company have been REMOVED from 21, King-street, St. James's, to the OFFICES of Messrs. CROFT and WOOD, 12, COPTHALL COURT, CITY, where the company's business will henceforth be transacted by the secretary. July 3, 1856. By order, HENRY C. CROFT, Sec. and Purser.

COIAPPO MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that the DIVIDEND of TEN SHILLINGS per share, declared at the Half-Yearly Meeting of shareholders, held on the 9th inst., will be PAYABLE on and after Monday, the 14th July next. The scrip certificates, with coupons, must be left at the office three clear days, to be examined. By order of the Board. EDWARD J. COLE, Sec. Offices, 2, New Broad-street, London, May 19, 1856.

UNITED MEXICAN MINING ASSOCIATION.—Notice is hereby given, that the HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of proprietors of this association will be HELD at the office of the company, No. 5, Finsbury-circus, on Wednesday, the 30th day of July inst., at One o'clock precisely, when the election of two directors and one auditor, who go out of office by rotation, will take place. Directors going out by rotation JOHN WESTON, Esq. Auditor going out by rotation CHARLES BIGGS, Esq. And who are eligible thereto, are candidates for re-election.

The Transfer-books will be closed on the evening of the 12th, and re-opened on the 31st inst. By order of the Directors. ARTHUR WESTMACOTT, Sec. 5, Finsbury-circus, London, July 3, 1856.

ROYAL SANTIAGO MINING COMPANY.—The Directors hereby give notice, that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders will be HELD at the office of the company on Wednesday, the 9th day of July next, at Two o'clock precisely, when the directors will make their report. 38, Broad-street-building, June 14, 1856.

LIBERTY MINING COMPANY.—ISSUE OF ADDITIONAL SHARES.—In accordance with a Resolution passed at a Special General Meeting, held this day, SUBSCRIPTIONS will be RECEIVED at the office, 62, Moorgate-street, for 25,000 ADDITIONAL SHARES, which, with the shares now unissued or undistributed, will be issued at 2s. 6d. each; the subscription money to be paid on or before the 15th July next, on which day the subscription will be closed. Dated June 24 1856. By order, H. H. ROOD, Sec.

PORT ROYAL AND ST. ANDREW'S COPPER MINING COMPANY OF JAMAICA.—Notice is hereby given, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders of this company will be HELD at the office of the company, in the City of London, on Friday, the 18th day of July inst., at Two o'clock in the afternoon, to consider the most advisable steps to be taken with reference to the continuance or dissolution of the company, and to adopt and sanction all such measures as shall be incident thereto. By order, J. H. KOCH, Sec. 7, Pope's Head-alley, Cornhill, London, July 5, 1856.

ANGLO-CALIFORNIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders of this company will be HELD on Wednesday, the 16th day of July inst., at the office of the company, Gresham House, No. 25, Old Broad-street, City, at Two o'clock, to consider the present position of the company, and the expediency of raising additional capital, and to adopt such steps with reference to the future proceedings of the company as may be deemed advisable. By order, GEORGE F. GOODMAN, Sec. Gresham House, 25, Old Broad-street, July 2, 1856.

QUARTZ ROCK MARIPOSA GOLD MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that, in consequence of the report from Mr. Waddell, given at the meeting of the 10th inst., of the progress of the Quartz Rock, not having yet arrived, the Directors deem it advisable to POSTPONE THE MEETING for the 8th inst. until further notice. By order, FREDK. DINELEY, Sec. pro tem. 26, Throgmorton-street, July 2, 1856.

THE SCOTTISH AUSTRALIAN INVESTMENT COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that the TRANSFER-BOOKS of this company will be CLOSED on and after THURSDAY, the 10th proxima, preparatory to payment of the dividend on Monday, the 8th day of August next, and will remain so closed until after that date. By order of the Directors, C. GRAINGER, Sec. 24, Gresham-street, London, June 23, 1856.

COLONIAL BANK.—(Paid-up Capital, £500,000).—The Court of Directors of the Colonial Bank hereby give notice, that, in pursuance of the provisions of the charter, a HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of proprietors will be HELD on Wednesday, the 9th of July, 1856, at Twelve for One o'clock precisely, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, to receive the report of the proceedings of the corporation, and for the election of two directors in the room of Andrew Colville, Esq., deceased, and of George Hankey, Esq., resigned. Also, of two auditors in the room of Wm. Elliot, Esq., and of Capt. W. G. H. Whish, R.N., resigned. Charles Cave, Esq., and Capt. W. G. H. Whish, R.N., offer themselves as candidates for the vacant directorship; and Eden Colville, Esq., and Charles Downes Manning, Esq., offer themselves as candidates for the vacant auditorships. Proprietors are requested to take notice of the following provisions of the charter:—

1. Every proprietor intending to become a candidate, or to propose some other proprietor as a candidate, for the vacant offices of director or auditor must, within ten days from

SPIKES AND FISH BOLTS.—Prices and detailed information, with respect to HOPPER'S PATENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS IN SPIKES AND FISH BOLTS, will be forwarded on application to Mr. Geo. Hopson, Houghton-le-Spring Ironworks, and Britannia Ironworks, Fence House, Durham. Thousands of tons of the above have been made at these works during the last ten years, for most of the principal railways in England. A liberal allowance to exporters and commission agents.

SAFETY BLASTING CARTRIDGES.—JOHN WESTLAKE, HELSTON, CORNWALL, MANUFACTURER OF SAFETY BLASTING CARTRIDGES of every description, for CONDUCTING BLASTING OPERATIONS IN DRY, DAMP, OR WET GROUND, containing 6, 8, or 10 ozs. of powder each, or any other size or weight, according to order.

These cartridges are made of the strongest powder and safety fuse, and are allowed to be the best for the intended purpose ever yet brought into use. The sort for dry ground are very much safer and cheaper than the dangerous custom of using loose powder; those covered with gutta percha are waterproof, and adapted to general work; and those enclosed in India rubber cases are very superior for wet ground, affording perfect protection to the powder from water, and expanding without breaking or cracking under the pressure of the tamping bar, and ensuring successful work.

COALS FOR GAS AND COKE, of very superior quality, yielding 10,000 ft. of gas per ton, and producing COKE peculiarly adapted for locomotives, foundries, and smiths, MAY BE HAD IN ANY QUANTITY, direct from the proprietors, by applying to THE BRITISH COALMINE AND COKE CO., Newport, Monmouthshire.

LOCOMOTIVE COKE.—From 100 to 150 tons per week, of very superior quality, and made expressly for locomotive use; also, COKE and GAS COALS in any quantity; may be CONTRACTED for immediately, for one, two, or three years, delivered on the South Wales Railway, or shipped.—Address, Mr. GEORGE YOUNG, 75, Old Broad-street, London.

NEW WHEAL VOR UNITED MINES. SITUATE IN THE PARISHES OF BREAGE AND SITHNEY, CORNWALL. To be worked on the "CORN-COKE SYSTEM." In 4000 shares of £5 each.—Deposit on allotment, £1 per share.

These most valuable tin mines are held by highly influential persons, who are now forming a company for the purpose of fully developing their metallic deposits; and as they so closely adjoin the far famed Great Wheal Vor Mines, which have proved the richest tin mines in the world, and surrounded by others of great value, and now at high premiums, the fullest confidence is felt that on the full development of these mines, immense profits will be realised to the adventurers. The sets of the New Wheal Vor Mines extend over 400 acres of ground, through which many of the Great Wheal Vor lodes pass; and the proprietors are fully warranted in their anticipations of success, as the mines have been carefully inspected and reported on by Capt. John Richards, manager of the Great Consols Mine; Joseph Vivian, manager of North Roskear and other mines; and Mark Reed, former manager of Great Wheal Vor Mines.

Applications for shares may be made to Mr. BRADDOCK, at the Company's temporary office, 6, Gray's Inn-place, Gray's Inn, where the fullest information will be given, and prospectuses had.

THE MARYSVILLE GAS AND WATER COMPANY (LIMITED). No shareholder will become liable for more than the amount of his shares. Capital £200,000, in 80,000 shares of £2 10s. each.—Deposit 2s. per share.

CHARLES BARBER, Esq., Lloyd's; and Chamberlain's Wharf. **CHARLES JOYCE, Esq.,** Moor-gate-street, Director of the Bank of London. **W. D. STARLING, Esq.,** Laurence Pountney-lane; and Bromley, Kent.

(With power to add to their number.) **BANKERS—Messrs. Masterman, Peters, and Co.,** Nicholas-lane, London; the Bank of London.

SOLICITORS—Messrs. Baker and Knight, 34, Lime-street. **BROKER—Edward F. Satterthwaite, Esq.,** 38, Throgmorton-street.

ENGINEERS—James Gascoigne Lynde, Esq., M. Inst. C.E., F.G.S., 7, Great Queen-street, Westminster.

This company is formed for the supply of gas and water to the City of Marysville, California, under two concessions by the municipal authorities, under an Act of the Legislature, whereby these privileges are granted for terms expiring in 1872.

Marysville is the third city of California in population and importance. In the two others, San Francisco and Sacramento, gas works have been already established. The price of gas at San Francisco is \$15 (or 60s.) per 1000 cubic feet, and the gas company there realised last year 70 per cent. profit.

Marysville is most advantageously situated, being the natural terminus of the water conveyance. In 1852 the resident population was only 4500. It is now estimated at 18,000; besides this, the transit population is very large. Water supplied to the inhabitants at present by water carts; the charge for a bucket of four gallons is 13½ cents (or 6d.), and two hog-heads delivered daily are charged at \$8 (or 32s.) per week.

The reports of the British Consul at San Francisco, and of Mr. Lynde, the company's engineer, may be seen at the temporary offices of the company, 34, Lime-street. Applicants for shares will be required to pay 2s. per share into the company's bankers, which will be returned on all shares not allotted.

Applications may be made to the broker, E. F. Satterthwaite, Esq., 38, Throgmorton-street; or to the secretary, 34, Lime-street, of whom prospectuses and forms of application may be obtained. S. GRANTHAM BAKER, Sec.

THAMES STEAM-TUG AND LIGHTERAGE COMPANY (LIMITED). Capital, £200,000, to be divided into 20,000 shares of £10 each. DIRECTORS.

THOMAS BRASSEY, Esq., Lowndes-square, Westminster. **JOHN BLAKE, Esq.,** Northumberland Wharf, Brentford. **HORATIO GOSNOLD DAY, Esq.,** Isleworth.

SIR S. MORTON PETO, Bart., Great George-street, Westminster. **WM. SWANN, Esq.,** 14, Queen-square, Westminster. **W. H. TYLER, Esq.,** 1, Leinster-terrace, Hyde-park.

MANAGERS—Messrs. Keen and Blake. **BANKERS—Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co.,** Lombard-street. **SOLICITOR—R. H. WYLLIE, Esq.,** 28, Parliament-street, Westminster.

ENGINEERS—Charles May, Esq., F.R.S., 3, Great George-street, Westminster. **BROKERS—Messrs. Laurence, Son and, Pearce,** Auction Mart, London. **SECRETARY—Charles Eley, Jun., Esq.,** 28, Throgmorton-street.

OFFICES—28, PARLIAMENT STREET, WESTMINSTER. PROSPECTUS.

Although the trade and commerce of the port of London have been greatly increased by the vast outlay upon railways and other works in connection with the metropolis, that great artery in the commercial system, the River Thames, has been almost wholly neglected.

The commercial tonnage upon the River Thames has increased at least three-fold during the last 30 years, and is rapidly increasing, yet, notwithstanding the loud complaints of merchants and others interested in commerce, little has been done to remedy the evils resulting from the over-crowded state of this important highway.

The Victoria Dock, just completed, and the proposed dock at Dagenham, a little lower down, as also the new dock at Brentford, in connection with the Great Western Railway, and the Welsh coal trade, will put so large an additional traffic on the river, that it is imperative to adopt improved means of transit; and hence the formation of this company.

There are upwards of 6000 barges, and from 40 to 100 tons burden, used in carrying upon the Thames, yet they are insufficient for the trade; and much heavy traffic which, under proper arrangements, would be conveyed by the river, is carried through the streets of London, to the serious loss to the owner, and inconvenience to the public.

The members of one of the largest carrying firms upon the River Thames, also finding that improved facilities in conducting their rapidly-increasing business were required, and that a large addition of capital would be necessary, expressed their willingness to join the company, and to transfer their plant and business, as a price to be settled by arbitration; the directors, having satisfied themselves of the importance of the alliance, have accepted the offer; and it is a part of the agreement that the company shall have the exclusive services of the gentlemen referred to for a term of years. The large interest they have agreed to take in the company is a guarantee of the bona fides of the undertaking, and the experience of practical men, and a staff of tried servants, will ensure efficient management.

One of the objects of this company is to establish on the River Thames a class of light-draught iron steamers, constructed for the safe storage and rapid delivery of every description of goods, also tug-boats, for the towing of their own and other barges and craft; by these means, the traffic on the river will be assisted, and collisions relieved from delays in the Pool, often of weeks' duration.

In consequence of the improvements which the company will effect in river carriage generally, lightermen will, without doubt, be glad to avail themselves of the steam-tugs, for the purpose of towing their craft, instead of depending solely on the tide. The best description of river work will also be secured by the superiority of their vessels, their safety, and means of quick delivery.

To all interested in the trade of the port of London the advantages proposed to be conferred by this company will be readily understood and appreciated. At present, delays of the most serious nature frequently take place from adverse winds and the loss of a time; these difficulties will be greatly obviated by the improved system proposed by the company.

The directors have satisfied themselves that, if they carry only 500,000 tons out of the 5,000,000 tons and upwards at present carried upon the Thames, they will be enabled to pay a handsome dividend to the shareholders. The trade which may be said to be already secured amounts to upwards of 150,000 tons annually.

It has been resolved to commence with a comparatively small fleet, and to increase it as may be required.

Application for shares to be made in the annexed form to the secretary, at the offices, 28, Parliament-street, Westminster, or to the brokers.

Each applicant for shares will be required to pay to the bankers of the company £1 per share, on the number of shares applied for, in part payment of a deposit of £1; the remaining capital will be raised by calls of not exceeding £2, to be made at intervals of, not less than three months each. In the event of the directors allotting less than the number applied for, the amount paid in will be appropriated towards the deposit of £3 per share, payable on those allotted, and in the event of no allotment taking place the deposit will be returned in full.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES. To the Directors of the Thames Steam-Tug and Lighterage Company (Limited).

OBTAINERS.—Having paid into the hands of Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co., the bankers of the company, £1 to your credit, I request you will allot me shares of £10 each in the above-named company, and I hereby agree to accept such shares, or any less number that may be allotted to me, and to pay the deposit and calls thereon at the appointed times, and to execute the Deed of Settlement, and all other necessary documents when required to do so.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant, Name in full.....

Profession or occupation.....

Residence in full.....

Date of business, if any.....

Date.....

In the Court of Vice-Wardens of the Stannaries.—Stannaries of Cornwall.

PURSUANT to an ORDER, or DECREE, made in the Cause of—

PEARSE v. BUCKINGHAM. The CREDITORS in respect of TIN VALE MINE, in the parish of St. Neot, within the said Stannaries, are, on or before the 16th day of July next, to COME IN and PONDERS AND CARNEDON PATRICK MINE, in the parish of St. Neot, or in default thereof they will be PEREMPTORILY EXCLUDED the benefit of the said Decree.

Dated Registrar's Office, Truro, the 27th day of June, 1856.

DEVON UNITED MINES, SOUTON, NEAR OKEHAMPTON, DEVON. MR. F. A. DAVIS WILL OFFER FOR SALE, BY AUCTION,

On Tuesday, the 8th July, 1856, at One o'clock in the afternoon, at the DEVON UNITED MINES, the WHOLE of the MACHINERY and MATERIALS of the said MINES, comprising a very superior WATER-WHEEL, 40 ft. diam., 2½ ft. above, with iron axle and rim; 18 ft. flat rod pulleys, with stands; 69 fms. 2 in. square rods, with joints; shaft and travelling bobs, with brasses, &c.; 10 ft. 9 in. pumps; 19 ft. 8 in. pumps; 16 ft. 7 in. pumps; 11 ft. 7½ in. working-barrel; 19 ft. 5 in. ditto; 21 ft. 6 in. ditto; 37 in. doormice and doors; 15 in. doormice; 4 windboxes; 50 fms. whin-rope; horse-shoes, complete; capstan and shears with sheaves, &c.; the last being 40 fms. long; 30 fms. tramway; 30 fms. tramway; 30 fms. 2 in. iron rods; ditto 1½ in. ditto; about 45 fms. bucket rods, ditto, &c.; small quantity of new Norway and other timber; quantity of old timber; smiths and miners' tools; scrap iron; 30 in. smiths' bellows; wood ladders; gisters; ladders; shovels; staples and glands; pick moulds; with a variety of other articles of general utility in mining operations; about 50 tons of rough muddle.

The whole of the above is in good condition, and conveniently situated for transit, being close to the turnpike-road leading from Tavistock to Okehampton.

Refreshments will be provided. Bridestowe, June 23, 1856.

In Chancery.—In the Matter of the JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES' WINDING-UP ACTS, 1848 and 1849, and of the TREGONERIS and CARNEBONE FATWORK TIN MINING COMPANY.

MR. NICHOLAS TREVENEN TRENCHOUSE WILL SELL, BY AUCTION, at the Star Hotel, in the borough of Helston, in the county of Cornwall, on Thursday, the 10th day of July, 1856, at Three o'clock in the afternoon, in One Lot (under the direction, and with the approbation, of the Hon. Sir George Rose, the Master of the High Court of Chancery charged with the winding-up of the above company), ALL that MINING PROPERTY, known as the TREGONERIS AND CARNEBONE FATWORK TIN MINE, situate in the parish of Wendron, in the said county, together with the ENGINE HOUSE, STACK, and BOILER HOUSE, and other requisite and useful buildings, and the PLANT thereon, comprising a new 36 in. cylinder STEAM-ENGINE and new boiler, complete; several fathoms of pumps, of various sizes, underground; water-plunger, iron, kibbles, pulleys, about 2 tons of new iron, timber, tackle, chains, blocks, smiths' tools, and all other materials now on the said mine.

The mine is held on lease, from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall, for a term of 20 years, from the 24th day of June, 1855, and is situate about four miles from the said borough of Helston, in a good tin district. It is bounded on the north-west by Wendron Consols Mine, on the north by Forkellis United Mines, and on the west by Wheal Livel. It has been worked under its present lease for three years, during which time the adventurers expended thereon about £7000.

The property may be viewed at any time previous to the sale; and particulars and conditions of sale obtained on application at the Star Hotel, Helston; of the auctioneer, Mr. N. T. TRENCHOUSE, Helston; of Mr. WILLIAM TURQUAND, the official manager, at his office, No. 13, Old Jewry Chambers, London; and of Mr. AUGUSTUS ROGERS, solicitor, No. 32, Old Jewry, London.

HORRABRIDGE, NEAR TAVISTOCK, DEVON. NEW AND VALUABLE MINING MATERIALS FOR SALE.

MR. WM. MONK has been instructed to SELL, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday, the 14th day of July, 1856, at WHEAL ROBERT, situate in the parish of Sampford Spiney, the following MINING MATERIALS, comprising a WATER-WHEEL, 20 ft. high by 10 ft. broad, with cast-iron axle, rings, and sockets, with crank, and all its brasses, bearings, launders, &c., complete, nearly new, and built by Nicholls, Williams, and Co.; a very superior balance-bob, with brasses and bearings, complete; large pendulum bob, with bishop's head, &c.; two iron sweep rods; lot of 3 in. flat rods, with hammered joints; 9 ft. 9 in. pumps; 3 ft. 9 in. windboxes; 23 in. workings; 5 ft. 9 in. doors and doormice; 18 in. windbox; 19 in. wood matching; 15 in. door and doormice; a new 5 in. flat rope; 80 fms. 11 in. capstan-rope; large cast-iron cage whin; 6 fms. 6 in. whin rope; quantity of 2 in. and 1½ in. bucket rods; 2 large machine kibbles; 2 whin kibbles; 2 whin pulleys; iron work and brasses for shears, complete; a quantity of strapping plates and bolts; several sets of screw plates and taps; ladders; 2 ft. and 18 in. pulleys and stands; blaster and gal steel; cast-steel for borers; 2 anvils; 1 vice; 1 new grindstone; large beam and scales; 1 other ditto, and weights; windlass; lot of safety fuse; quantity of new flat and round hammered iron; lot of scrap ditto; bucket prongs, sealings, &c.; pick moulds and shovels; quantity of smiths and miners' tools; smiths' horse; large candle chest; miners' and other chests; white yards; hide of leather; shaft chain and door; lot of pick and shovel hobs; bar and boiler 15 ft. 3 in. diameter. Also, the account-house furniture, and a large waste machine house.

The auctioneer can confidently recommend the above materials to mine agents and others, as being of first-rate quality and workmanship, and the whole nearly new.

The materials are easy of access for carriage, being only a quarter of a mile from the main road leading from Plymouth to Tavistock.

May be viewed on application to Capt. NELLE, on the mine; and any further information may be obtained of the auctioneer, at the Abbey, Tavistock.

Refreshments at Twelve, and the sale at One o'clock. Dated Tavistock, July 2, 1856.

CARMARTHENSHIRE.—PONTYCLERC COLLIERY, NEAR CROSS INN. IMPORTANT TO COLLIERY PROPRIETORS, IRONMASTERS, CONTRACTORS, AND OTHERS.

MR. E. MORGAN DOUGLAS has been honoured with instructions from the proprietors to SELL, BY AUCTION, without reserve, on Tuesday, the 15th day of July, 1856, the WHOLE of the valuable PLANT of the above COLLIERY, consisting of—Engine No. 1: One condensing engine, 42 in. steam cylinder, 80 in. blast cylinder, 7 ft. stroke, estimated horse-power 80. Engine No. 2: High-pressure beam engine, cylinder 11 in., 20 in. stroke, boiler 11 ft. 6 in. long, 5 ft. diam., with a 15 in. tube, can be highly recommended, in good working order. Engine No. 3: Horizontal engine and boiler 11 in., 16 in. stroke, and boiler 15 ft. 3 in. diameter, quite new; this lot is well worthy the attention of purchasers. Two cylindrical boilers, 30 ft. 6 in., 4 ft. 7 in. diameter, 7-16 in. plate; the above are quite new, never been set. Cylindrical boiler No. 3, 30 ft. long, 4 ft. diameter, with fire doors, frames, bars, and all the usual fittings, nearly new. About 20 tons of contractors' rails, 45 lb. to the yard; 20 tons of pit rails; 25 colliery and pit wagons, and underground trams; superior weighing machine, to weigh 10 tons, 4 ft. 8½ in. gauge; one ditto, 3 tons, 2 ft. 4 in. gauge.

The pumps comprise 12 in. force pump, 7½ in. ditto, 7½ in. lifting ditto, 6 in. ditto, 17 in. ditto, 4 in. ditto, slide pump, &c.; superior 12 ft. T-bob, 10 ft. ditto; 3 single purchase winding crabs, suitable for contractors, timber merchants, and others; 2 useful wrought-iron balance pans, including double branch pipes and water cocks.

In the different sheds will be found useful round and bar iron, brass, lead, steel files, hump, packing ropes, 1 in. chains, ½ in. ditto, new pit rope, 8 ewts., 3½ in. diam. The blacksmiths and carpenters' shops will be found replete with all the usual requisites, amongst which will be found excellent anvils, bellows, vice, turning lathes, benches, quantity of workmen's implements and tools, scales, weights, grindstones, &c.

A large quantity of excellent saws, pine, oak, ash, and other timber, 300 spruce planks, and some hundreds of old and new doors, &c.

The office fittings comprise a fire-proof safe, 5 ft. 1 in. by 3 ft. 1 in., height 4 ft.; copying press, office desk, chairs, 17 Davy lamps, drawing tables, surveyors' drawing instruments, dumpy level, circumferentor, small ditto.

The stock and implements consist of excellent cart horse, 2 carts, wheelbarrows, sets of shaft and leading harness, saddles, bridles, plough, harrows, chaff-cutter, &c.

Three months' credit upon approved bills will be given. The sale will commence at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Purchasers' attention is particularly requested to the catalogue, as it will be found very comprehensive as to description and particulars; it is now preparing, and can be had nine days previous to the sale, of the auctioneer, at his offices, Market-street, Llanelli; and at the principal hotels in Swansea, Cardiff, Merthyr, Newport, Llanidlo, Carmarthen, and Haverfordwest.

The Pontyclerc Works are remarkably well situated for the removal of the plant, the Llanelli and Llanidlo Railway going right through the works, with a siding from the main line for the use of the colliery. The station at Cross Inn is within half a mile of the works, and trains run in connection with the South Wales Railway, leaving at 9.10 a.m., and returning from Cross Inn at 5.35, 10 times for the up mail train.

FREEHOLD LANDED PROPERTY NEAR BRISTOL. TO CAPITALISTS, CONTRACTORS FOR PUBLIC WORKS, BUILDERS, STONE MERCHANTS, AND OTHERS.

THE DUNDY DOWNS ESTATE, WITH ITS VALUABLE FREESTONE QUARRIES.

MR. F. G. DEBENHAM has received instructions from the Mortgagees to SELL, BY AUCTION, at the Mart, on Wednesday, the 18th July, at Twelve, in Two Lots, the important FREEHOLD ESTATE known as DUNDY DOWNS, comprising about 80 acres of excellent PASTURE LAND, situate on the summit of Dundry Hill, 4½ miles from the City of Bristol, with the exceedingly valuable QUARRIES, containing an immense quantity of the finest description of BUILDING STONE, the quality of which has been tested by G. H. Smith, Esq., of London (one of the gentlemen appointed under the authority of the Lords Commissioners to select the stone used for the new Houses of Parliament), whose report has been published, and is highly satisfactory. It is especially adapted for substantial and ornamental buildings, and possesses great durability; evidence of which is supplied by the excellent preservation of Dundry Church Tower, built with stone from these quarries in the thirteenth century. The quarry has been recently opened, and only a small additional outlay will be required to place it in full working order.

Lot 1. Comprises 70 acres, including TWO COTTAGES, occupied by Mr. Charles Withers, Mr. Chard, and Mr. Carp, and produces a present rental of £90 per annum.

Lot 2. Nine acres of rich PASTURE, let to Mr. E. Batt, at £20 per annum.

Both farms are well stocked with the valuable prospective advantages, in addition of the royalties to be derived from the quarries. The views from the summit of the hill can hardly be exceeded in extent and beauty.

Particulars, with conditions of sale and plans, may be obtained of Mr. R. BATT, Dundry, who will show the estate; of Messrs. ARMSTRONG and SON, surveyors, Bristol; of Messrs. CUDNOR, Norwich; of Mr. J. G. HOBBS, solicitor, Bristol; and at Mr. DEBENHAM'S Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 30, Cheapside, London, where also specimens of the stone can be seen.

LEAD MINES.—TO LET, the valuable LEAD VEINS within the

manor of Bowes, in the North Riding of the County of York, extending over upwards of 12,000 acres. This manor is intersected by numerous veins, some of which have been partially worked since many years ago, and others from the mineral character of the debris around the shafts there is great appearance of considerable quantities of ore having been raised; and from recent survey, it is clearly ascertained that by a moderate outlay the main lead-bearing strata of the district may be worked. Liberal terms will be granted for a lease of the whole, or a portion.

Further particulars may be had on application to Mr. C. L. BRADLEY, Richmond, Yorkshire.

PROSPERITY.—A DESIRABLE FREEHOLD ESTATE, IN THE PARISH OF CHURCH PULVERBATCH, WITHIN TWO MILES OF THE CELEBRATED SNAILBEACH LEAD MINES, AND NINE MILES FROM SHREWSBURY.

MR. H. A. JONES is instructed by the trustees, and will OFFER FOR SALE, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury, on Friday, the 25th day of July, 1856, at Three o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced, a valuable FREEHOLD ESTATE, at Castle Pulverbatch, the lawn, and the Lea, in the parish of Church Pulverbatch, comprising upwards of 300 acres of productive ARABLE, MEADOW, PASTURE, and WOOD LAND, together with an excellent HILL, forming a valuable SHEEPWALK, 60 acres in extent.

The whole estate will be offered in one Lot, but if not so sold, then in two, or in three lots—viz.,

The farm and residences of Castle Pulverbatch, comprising..... 232 3 6

The lawn farm, including the hill..... 18 1 1

Total acreage..... 361 0 30

The estate is beautifully situated in a productive, picturesque, and fertile part of the county, distant about four miles from the Dorrington Station, on the Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway, three miles from the terminus of the Ministry branch of the intended Shrewsbury and Welshpool Railway, and by the turnpike road within nine miles from Shrewsbury.

It is believed that copper and lead ore are under a portion of the estate, and that coal beds lie under other parts.

Plans and particulars may be had on application at the Journal of Auctions office, Essex House, Essex-street, Strand; Midland Counties Herald office, Birmingham, at the Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury; and from the auctioneer; Messrs. COOPER and BROUGHAM, solicitors; or Messrs. KOTON and SON, solicitors, all of Shrewsbury.

IMPORTANT TO RAILWAY COMPANIES, CONTRACTORS, AGENTS FOR FOREIGN RAILWAYS, AND OTHERS.—Messrs. DUNN, HATFIELD, and CO., of the WINDSOR BRIDGE IRONWORKS, MANCHESTER, have now completed arrangements for MANUFACTURING every description of RAILWAY PLANT, such as Turn-Tables, Cranes, Steam-Engines, and every description of Pump, Tanks, Hoisting Tackle, and every requisite for forming and maintaining railways, on the most approved principle; and have also agreed with Mr. WHEATLEY KIRK to SELL OFF all their very extensive SURPLUS STOCK of MACHINERY, STEAM-ENGINES, BOILERS, TURN-TABLES, CRANES, &c., early in August next, of which due notice will be given, and catalogues forwarded.

STEAM-ENGINES AND BOILERS FOR SALE. A 40-horse power HIGH-PRESSURE BEAM ENGINE. A 40-horse power ditto, in an iron house, and suitable for a colliery. A 60-horse power CONDENSING ENGINE. A 16-horse power HIGH-PRESSURE HORIZONTAL ENGINE. A 5-horse power plain ditto.

A SECOND-HAND 6-horse power HIGH-PRESSURE ENGINE, vertical action. Also, TWO BOILERS, 30 ft. long, 6 ft. diameter. Apply at the Goscoe Foundry, near Walsall.

STATIONARY STEAM-ENGINES OF THE BEST QUALITY. From 1 to 50-horse power, fitted with VARIABLE EXPANSION GEAR. These engines, which have been designed to combine great simplicity of parts with the utmost economy of action, are supplied with or without boilers, at the lowest possible rates; and erected, if required, in any part of the kingdom. General boiler and tank work carefully executed upon advantageous terms.—Apply to Messrs. WILLIAM YOUNG and CO., engineers, Barnstaple.

FOR SALE, A 50-HORSE CONDENSING ENGINE, cylinder 3 ft. diameter, stroke 3½ ft., wrought-iron shaft, and fly-wheel 20 ft. diameter, air-pump, and condenser; two boilers, 35 ft. long, with flues all through, of the best manufacture; for £400.—Apply to JAMES HAIK, engineer, Dublin.

WATER-WHEEL.—FOR SALE, in Ireland, near a railway and shipping port, a superior IRON WATER-WHEEL, 40 ft. diam., 4 ft. broad, with bearing blocks, brasses, &c., complete; adapted to the purposes of mining operations. The machine is in excellent working condition.—For price, &c., address "A. B.," Mining Journal office, 26, Fleet-street, London.—Feb. 2, 1856.

PARTNERSHIP (LIMITED).—THE PROPRIETORS of an EXTENSIVE AND VALUABLE SLATE QUARRY, now in work, and capable of much greater development, DESIRE to ASSOCIATE with them, under the provisions of the Law of Limited Liability, a few MEN of CAPITAL, who could command £15,000 to £20,000.

The present proprietors are few in number, and they are desirous that that number shall not be greatly extended. The quarry has been entered upon as an investment, and, by the application of additional capital, has every prospect of being a most remunerative undertaking.

Every facility for enquiry and comparison as to the quality of the slate, the extent of the quarry, and its financial condition and prospects, will be afforded to principals, or their solicitors, who may communicate with Mr. HENRY WHITWORTH, 12, Corporation-street, Manchester.

TO CAPITALISTS.—THE GELL-Y-ARB MINE.—A valuable OPPORTUNITY for the INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL is now offered to the public. A shaft has been sunk 11 fms., and a level driven 5 fms. 30 tons of ore have been raised, and a splendid lode is now to be seen in the shaft and level. The property has been worked by a private party, and must be sold in consequence of the death of one of them.—For further particulars, apply to Mr. JOHN KERR, Llanelli, Bridgend, Glamorganshire.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.—FREEHOLD, COPYHOLD, AND VALUABLE MINING PROPERTY.—FOR SALE, A FREEHOLD ESTATE, called Hafod Ganol, situate in the Rhondda Valley, within 150 yards of the Rhondda Branch of the Taff Vale Railway, from the southern part thereof, and 14 miles from Cardiff, comprising 139 acres of MEADOW and PASTURE LAND, and also THREE SEAMS of superior BITUMINOUS COAL, and IRONSTONE, the whole of which is being worked by the Ton-Du Iron Company, the whole of the mine of coal averaging, as it is estimated, 60 ft. thick, 47 ft. of which are workable at a profit. The portion of the estate called Glyn Llan Mountain is detached from the farm, and is situate about three miles distant therefrom, under which also lie valuable seams of coal.

There is every convenience for sinking pits and opening collieries on these estates; and they are confidently recommended to parties desirous of purchasing mineral property as a very profitable and safe investment.

Also, TWO UNDIVIDED THIRD PARTS of a small COPYHOLD PROPERTY, called Cae Court, in the parish of Llang-y-felach, near Swansea, in the county of Glamorgan, comprising about 18 acres of ARABLE and PASTURE LAND.

The above-mentioned property will shortly be put up for sale by public auction, with the concurrence of the mortgagee thereof, of which due notice will be given. In the meantime, further particulars and information relative thereto, if required, may be obtained of Mr. DAVID THOMAS, mineral engineer and surveyor, Golden-grove, near Newbridge, Newport, Monmouthshire; of Mr. WALTER MORRIS, solicitor, Merthyr Tydvil; of Mr. WILLIAM LEWIS, solicitor, Bridgend; of Messrs. LAURENCE and RANDALL, solicitors, Neath; Messrs. NICHOLS and CLARK, solicitors, 9, Cock's-court, Lincoln's Inn, London; and of Mr. ROBERT RABIN, auctioneer, 68, Great Marlborough-street, London.

TO BE DISPOSED OF, A FIRST-RATE LEAD AND COPPER SETT.—Apply to Capt. WM. VERRAN, Llanidlo, N. W.

NORTH WALES.—

STEAM COMMUNICATION FROM ABERYSTWYTH TO LIVERPOOL, AND ABERYSTWYTH TO BRISTOL.
The CAMBRIAN STEAM PACKET COMPANY (LIMITED), unless prevented by any unforeseen occurrence, intend DISPATCHING, with goods and passengers, the powerful SCREW STEAMER "REGALIA," 200 tons burthen, or some other vessel suitable for the trade, on the days and hours hereunder mentioned.—

ABERYSTWYTH TO LIVERPOOL.
Tuesday, July 1, at 6h. 10m. morn.
Monday, " 7, at 10h. 21m. morn.
Wednesday, " 16, at 5h. 45m. morn.
Monday, " 21, at 6h. 43m. morn.
Wednesday, " 26, at 6h. 23m. morn.

ABERYSTWYTH TO BRISTOL.
Friday, " 11, at 12h. 20m. after.
Friday, " 25, at 12h. 20m. after.

FREIGHTS MODERATE.

N.B. Passengers are requested to take charge of their own luggage, as the company will not be responsible in any way for its safety. Horses, cattle, and vehicles of all kinds, are shipped on deck at the owner's risk. The company will not be answerable for any packages above the value of £10, unless the value thereof be previously declared, and paid for accordingly; nor for any loss of time, or accident occasioned by their steamer being engaged in the towing or salvage of any other vessel.

For freights and further particulars, apply to the agents, McCLURE and TAMPLEN, Columbia-buildings, Brunswick-street, Liverpool; GEORGE GREEN, Cambrian Foundry, Aberystwyth; E. T. TURNER, 12, Quay-street, Bristol; and
P. E. TUCKER, 1, Water-lane, Tower-street, London.

The Cambrian Steam Packet Company (Limited) beg to announce, that as soon as the necessary arrangements are completed, they purpose calling at Newport, Llanelli, Llanidloes, and Portmadoc, for goods and passengers.

OVERLAND ROUTE.—STEAM TO INDIA AND CHINA, &c.
via EGYPT.—THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY BOOK PASSENGERS AND RECEIVE GOODS AND PARCELS FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN, EGYPT, ADEN, BOMBAY, CEYLON, MADRAS, AND CALCUTTA, by their mail packets leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every month; and for CHINA and the STRAITS, by those of the 4th of the month.

For further particulars, apply at the company's offices, No. 122, Leadenhall-street, London; and Oriental-branch, Southampton.

PATENT FURNACES AND STEAM BOILERS.
LEE STEVEN'S PATENT FURNACES PREVENT SMOKE, ECONOMISE FUEL, INCREASE STEAM, extend the flame through the flues, and are easily and safely adapted to any evaporative or heating purpose. Official reports, working drawings, accumulating hundreds of references, and other practical information, at No. 1, Fish-street-hill, City, where particulars are also given of LEE STEVEN'S PATENT SAFETY STEAM BOILERS, marine and land.

LESS FUEL, MORE STEAM, AND NO SMOKE.
GARDNER'S PATENT SMOKE DEFLECTOR IS SELF-ACTING, EASILY FIXED, IMPROVES THE DRAUGHT, AND SAVES FUEL. It is applicable to all kinds of furnaces, boilers, ovens, marine engines, locomotives, and open fires, and entirely removes the smoke nuisance.—Apply to the patentee, 24, Norolk-street, Middlesex Hospital; to DUNSTON and HEALY, 118, Dorset-street, Fleet-street; or to Z. D. BERRY, Albion Works, Victoria-road, Finsbury.

Bakers' Ovens fitted for £5, license included.

PATENT SAFETY FUSE.—THE GREAT EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDAL WAS AWARDED TO THE MANUFACTURERS OF THE ORIGINAL SAFETY FUSE, RICKFORD, SMITH, DAVEY, AND PRYOR, who beg to inform Merchants, Mine Agents, Railway Contractors, and all persons engaged in Blasting Operations, that, for the purpose of protecting the public in the use of a genuine article, the PATENT SAFETY FUSE has now a thread wrought into its centre, which, being patent right, infallibly distinguishes it from all imitations, and ensures the continuity of the gunpowder.

This Fuse is protected by a Second Patent, is manufactured by greatly improved machinery, and may be had in any length and size, and adapted to every climate.

Address.—RICKFORD, SMITH, DAVEY, AND PRYOR, Fackingham, Cornwall.

SAFETY FUSE.—Messrs. WILLIAM BRUNTON AND CO., PEN-HALLICK, near REDBURN, CORNWALL, MANUFACTURERS OF FUSE, of every size and length, as exhibited in the Great Exhibition of 1851, and supplied to the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, the Arctic Expedition, and every part of the globe.

Messrs. BRUNTON & CO. are at all times PREPARED TO EXECUTE UNLIMITED ORDERS FOR SUPPLYING FUSE direct from their own MANUFACTORY, upon warrant that it will prove equal to, if not better, than any to be procured elsewhere.

TO ENGINEERS, MACHINE MAKERS, AND OTHERS.
CHAR. MACINTOSH AND CO., PATENTERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF THE VULCANISED INDIA-RUBBER, in all degrees of elasticity, recommend this material as capable of sustaining the ACTION OF HOT OR COLD WATER, GAS, STEAM, ACIDS, AND GREASE. It is used extensively for valves in marine and land engines, railway buffers and springs, washers for pipe joints, hose, and tubing, also for gas holders, acid pumps, alkali cisterns, &c. Articles, moulded or otherwise, made to any size or figure.—Address, 3, Cannon-street West, London; and Cambridge-street, Manchester.

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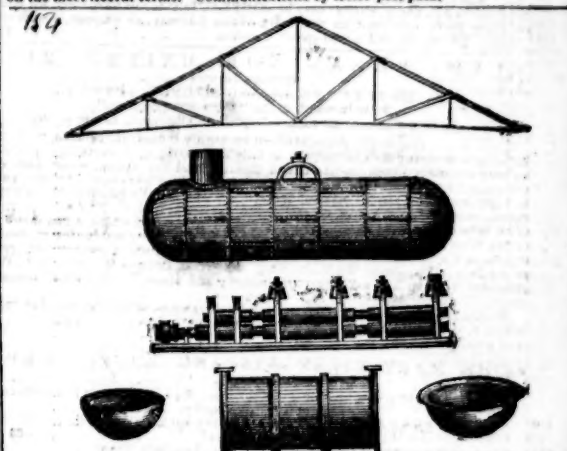
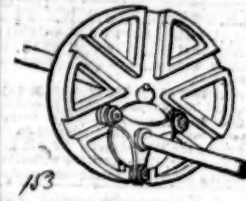
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